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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 23rd February 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock; Mr. Deputy President (SRI K. VENKATA-SWAMI NAYUDU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Immigration to Burma and Ceylon.

* 11 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the proposed talks between the Government of India and the Governments of Burma and Ceylon in respect of future immigration to Burma and Ceylon;

(b) whether the Government have been apprised of the points at issue which will be discussed between these Governments;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, whether trade relations have been included within the scope of the talks;

(d) whether in view of the fact that Madras is vitally concerned in regard to immigration and trade with Burma and Ceylon, the Government have represented that adequate representation should be provided for Madras in any delegation appointed for the purpose; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to make a statement on the subject?

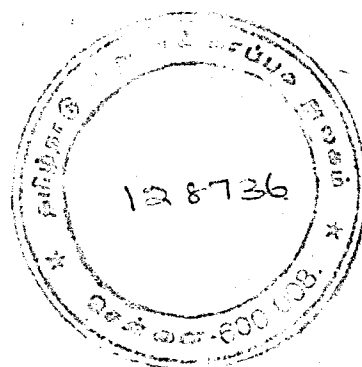
THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works):—"The subject-matter is one falling within the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government who should be addressed in the matter. The Government have no statement to make."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Is the Hon. Minister justified in referring me to the Dominion Government where the nationals of this Province are concerned? Is it not the duty of this Government to represent to the Dominion Government so far as the interests of the nationals of this Province are concerned?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"This Government have a duty by the people of this Province. But the subject-matter of this question is entirely within the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government and information has to be sought there."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government have introduced a resolution in the other House touching the subject-matter of this question?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot say that now."



CONTENTS

	PAGE
I Questions and Answers	115-118
II Message from His Excellency the Governor	118
III Government Bills—	
(1) The Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill, 1947—cont.	118-167
(2) The Madras Aided Institutions (Prohibition of Transfers of Property) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1948) ..	167-169
(3) The Madras Re-enacting and Repealing Bills Nos. I and II of 1948 (L.A. Bills Nos. 3 and 6 of 1948) ..	169-170
(4) The Madras Agriculturists' Relief (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1948)	170-171
IV Government Motion—	
Amendment of Schedule VI to the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919	171-172
V Government Bill—	
The Motor Vehicles (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1948)	172

[23rd February 1948]

Construction of a flood bank for the Vamsadhara river.

* 12 Q.—SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. Veerabhadraswami): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding construction of a flood bank for the Vamsadhara river at Nivagam village, Pathapatnam taluk, Vizagapatam district;

(b) whether the District Collector, Vizagapatam, has submitted a report on the action to be taken after his inspection two months back; and

(c) what action the Government have taken on this report?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works):—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The Collector has submitted a report to the Board of Revenue.

“(c) The remarks of the Board of Revenue on the Collector's report are awaited. The Board has been reminded to expedite its remarks.”

Paper Control.

* 13 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) why the control on paper is kept on; and

(b) how much retrenchment can be carried out by the decontrol of paper?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) The question of abolishing control on paper is a matter for consideration by the Government of India who have imposed it. In May last, they stated that control on paper could not be relaxed due to the then existing acute shortage of paper. This Government have taken up the matter again with the Government of India.

“(b) The following staff which is employed for paper control work will become unnecessary if paper is decontrolled:—

One Deputy Paper Controller;

One Paper Assistant;

Eight Paper Control Inspectors;

One Senior Superintendent;

Four upper division clerks;

Fourteen lower division clerks;

Two typists;

One attender;

Ten peons.”

[23rd February 1948]

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—“In view of the changed circumstances, will this Government request the Government of India to abolish paper control immediately, as its continuance leads to blackmarketing and corruption?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“As I have already said, we have already taken up the matter with the Government of India.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether a portion of the cost of the staff is borne by the Government of India?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“If this Government have to bear the entire cost of carrying out the control imposed by the Government of India and if they feel that paper control is no longer necessary, will not this Government press on the Government of India the removal of the control?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It has been repeatedly done.”

Training in the use of arms to boys in high schools and colleges.

* 14 Q.—SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. Veerabhadraswami): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to give training in the use of arms to boys in the high schools and colleges;

(b) whether they have formulated any scheme; and

(c) when they propose to introduce it?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

“(a) to (c) The Government have appointed a Committee with Lieut.-Col. Paul as Chairman and Mr. P. M. Joseph, Mr. Andrews, Mr. R. V. Rudrapaswami and Mr. Kuruvilla Jacob as members to go into the matter of giving military training to boys in schools. Two military officers were co-opted into the Committee by the members. The Committee also had the benefit of consultations with His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye and Major-General Srinagesh, General Officer Commanding, Southern Command. They submitted an interim report a month back. The final report has been submitted recently and the matter is under consideration.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“The answer relates only to schools. What about colleges?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Colleges are mainly left to the Universities.”

[23rd February 1948]

II.—MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—“I have to announce to the House the following message from His Excellency the Governor, dated 30th January 1948.

‘In pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3), of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Motor Vehicles (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1948.’

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS SUPPRESSION OF DISTURBANCES BILL, 1947—*cont.*

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. This is an independent House and is not bound by whatever might have been done in the other House. This Bill ought to have been properly called the ‘Shoot as You Like’ and ‘Kill as You Please Bill.’ I am very sorry that the Hon. Ministers have not realized the repercussions of this Bill. Let me tell them that the members of this House and you, Sir, may not be safe if this Bill is passed into law. The people to whom you are handing over the power to shoot may, even for a few simple offences committed in an area get the area declared ‘a disturbed area’ and snatch away power from you on the ground that they have to shoot a number of people including responsible officials on account of the fact that they will be a menace to the peace of the area. Clause 5 of the Bill says:

‘Any Magistrate, and any Police Officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector, may, if in his opinion it is necessary so to do for restoring or maintaining public order, after giving such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary, order fire to be opened, or otherwise use force, even to the causing of death, against any person who in a disturbed area is acting in contravention of any law or order for the time being in force in such area . . .’

According to the wording of the section, it is not necessary that there should be an unlawful assembly, it is not necessary that there should be any disturbance. Any Magistrate or any Police Officer not below the rank of the Sub-Inspector may go to anyone’s house at any time of the day or night, call him out and say: ‘You are a menace to the peace of the area; therefore I have to shoot you.’ He need not even give a warning; he may simply shoot. What does this mean? It means that the Government have become panicky and want to grab at power. Under the grab of democracy, they are only trying to grab at as much power as possible and put the civil liberty of the individual into jeopardy. Clause 6 of the Bill says:

‘No prosecution, suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted, except, with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government, against any person in respect of anything done or purporting to be done in exercise of the powers conferred by section 5.’

[23rd February 1948] [Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur]

“Now, let us see what the Government of India have done. There was a similar provision in section 270 of the Government of India Act, 1935, which read—

‘No proceedings, civil or criminal, shall be instituted against any person in respect of any act done or purporting to be done in the execution of his duty as a servant of the Crown in India or Burma before the relevant date, except with the consent, in the case of a person who was employed in connexion with the affairs of the Government of India or the affairs of Burma of the Governor-General in his discretion, and in the case of a person employed in connexion with the affairs of a Province, of the Governor of that Province in his discretion.’

There is practically no difference between clause 6 of the Bill and the section I have quoted. The Government have retained the power to protect persons who want to snatch away the civil liberty of the people, in spite of the fact that we are living not in 1935 but in 1948 after we have attained independence. Such a power is sought to be retained by Ministers who call themselves democratic and popular Ministers and who are sitting there on account of the support of a very popular party, namely, the Congress Party. If you will refer to the Government of India Act, 1935, as adapted by the India (Provisional Constitution) Order, 1947, you will see that the section 270 is omitted. That shows that the Dominion Government felt that it was against the principles of democracy to retain such a power. I ask the Hon. Ministers: Are we, the Ministers of this Province and the members of this Legislature, to be the first rebels against an act of the Dominion Government? While they felt that such a section should not be retained, is it right on our part to retain a clause to that effect in the present Bill?

“Now Sir, what will be the effect of this measure. As I have said, the Government have become panicky. They are feeling that they have lost popularity. They are feeling that they must have sufficient power in the next general elections in order that people may be afraid. Sir, if at all such a power was necessary, if at all shooting was necessary without the permission of a District Magistrate or a first-class magistrate, I should say that it was on the occasion of the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. If I were there, excuse me, I should have been a breaker of the law. I would have excused people for lynching the assassin to death on the very spot. Have you done that? Democracy demands, justice demands, and fairness demands that that person should be arrested and brought to trial. It should be proved before a court of law that he is a guilty person. All this procedure will have to be gone into by a Democratic Government. That was what was done in the case of that man, the alleged assassin of Mahatmaji. If you have not shot that man immediately who had taken away the life of Mahatma Gandhi, whose life was more precious than hundred thousand lives, if you had not given such power to anybody, I cannot understand how any ordinary Sub-Inspector could be empowered to shoot anybody, at any time, either in the day or

11-1
a.m.

[Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur] [23rd February 1948]

in the night, even without giving a warning. And then the Bill says that such an officer will be protected by the Government. What I submit is that such acts do not redound to the credit of a Democratic Government. Is this to be called the second Rowlatt Act in the history of this country? When the Rowlatt Act was passed, all the leaders of India cried hoarse against that Act and condemned it with all their vehemence. Perhaps the spirits of Dyers and O'Dwyers are still hovering over this Legislature. I would request the Hon. Ministers and hon. Members of the House to realize what would be the opinion of the public outside the four corners of this House. Member after member from the Congress benches, including my hon. Friend Mr. Natarajan argued in favour of passing this measure. In spite of the fact that he is a very able lawyer, his halting advocacy of the Bill, the arguments that he has advanced and the very submissive manner in which he has suggested amendments showed that he was feeling with the opposition that such an Act will not redound to the credit of the Government. My hon. Friend Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar who also spoke in favour of the measure, also spoke in the same strain. All the members of the Congress benches, in fact, did not wholeheartedly support this measure. They felt that such an Act would not be consistent with the democratic spirit of the Government and the country. Such being the case, the Government should consider, not once, but a thousand times, before bringing forward measures like this and passing it through the Legislature.

Now Sir, what is the urgency with regard to this measure? My hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was perfectly justified in saying that this Act was not going to serve any useful purpose. He said that only after the disturbance has taken place that you are going to declare an area as a disturbed area. By that time, enough havoc would have been done and many lives would have been lost and much loss would have been caused to properties. Only then you are going to give power to the police officers to shoot. Therefore, he asked what was the use of this Bill? Sir, his arguments cannot be refuted by any man who appreciates democracy.

Then Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu raised certain points which the Hon. Minister could not answer. (The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan: 'Wait a minute!') Well Sir, I am surprised to hear that the Hon. Minister has not heard those points. (An hon. Member: 'Who said so? The Hon. Minister has not yet answered!') Sir, from the manner in which those points were received, I am afraid that the Hon. Minister has no points to answer. (The hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'Wait and see.') I ask what is the reason for this urgency? Probably the reason for rushing through such pieces of legislation in this House and the other House is this. The Government are very complacent and very indifferent to public opinion. They think that they have got the majority in the Legislature and that they can pass any measures they like with their majority, whatever the public outside may say about them. But they forget that there is a day of retribution.

[23rd February 1948] [Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur]

A day is going to come surely, when they will have to answer before the bar of public opinion. It is not very far off. It may be much nearer than most people think. As a Hindustani poet says:

سن تو سہی جہاں ہیں سے تیرا فسانہ کیا
کہتی ہے تجھکو خدایا خائبانہ کیا*

which means, 'Hear what other people say about you outside; do not be self-complacent; do not think that you are very safe.' So also, I would ask the Hon. Ministers, 'Hear what other people say about you outside. See what they write about you. Understand the feelings of the electorate.' That was exactly one gentleman was remarking to me this morning. He said that slogans were written against the Ministers in the electric trains. That shows clearly which way the wind blows. That shows the unpopularity of the Ministers. It shows that the Ministers are not doing their duty to the people. It is therefore necessary that they must review their own acts. They must realize what they have done during these months during which they have been in office. After all what have they done, excepting changing the names of some towns into *Patnams*. What is it that you have done substantitally for the well-being of the people in the Province? These acts do not redound to your credit or the credit of your party or to the members of this Legislature. Therefore, Sir, we on this side must realize our responsibilities and must not be a party to the passing of this piece of legislation. (Interruption.) I am saying, Sir, that these things are going to recoil upon them. We know the feelings of the public outside; we know what they feel about the Government and about the Ministers. You are going to reap what you have sown. The general elections are coming after some months. You will then see where you will be. You will be placed in your proper places and you will not find yourselves in the Treasury Benches occupying these exalted places. (Interruption.) (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'Do you want to come here?') I do not want to be at your mercy, but you will be at the mercy of your own people and your own people will not spare you. Sir, in a joint electorate, I may not find a place here or on the other side; you will not allow me to come. I know my position. But where will you be?"

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Let the hon. Member confine himself to the subject. He has already taken too much time."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This is also included in the subject, Sir. I shall finish just now, Sir. I was going to suggest that such pieces of legislation should not be rushed through. Nothing is going to be lost if this Bill is delayed by another week. Let the Government appoint a Joint Select Committee to examine this Bill. Let them not brush aside everything that comes from the opposition with contempt. There may be something good, something reasonable and something substantial,

[Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur] [23rd February 1948]

which may come from this side of the House. Let them not think that all wisdom lies only with them and not with others on this side. Whether it is possible for us to do anything in the Select Committee or not, is a different matter. Many things can be done between now and when the Bill is actually passed through this House. When we are passing lawless laws like this, we can even go to the extent of doing away with some of the formalities and rules of procedure laid down by the Legislature, and sit in a Joint Select Committee and thrash out the various clauses of the Bill. It is after all a very small Bill; it contains only 6 sections; it is only just a mere scrap of paper, which can be thrown aside or lost. (Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu: 'Like Desdemona's handkerchief!') The Joint Select Committee can find out the defects in this Bill and suggest amendments to remove them and make the Bill innocuous and as harmless as possible. If you want to pass this Bill as it stands and without any amendments at all, I, for my part, would be the last man to support it."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I was rather amused the other day when I heard my distinguished friend, the hon. Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, accusing me of a grave error of judgment—or I do not know what exactly he wanted to say against the Leader of the House—for having arranged the programme of work with regard to this Legislature. The fact that the Hon. Home Minister was not present here that day, gave him the cause for his complaint. But the Government have got to carry on their business whether a particular member of the Government is present or is away. The fact is that this piece of legislation has got to come up before this Legislature and members opposite cannot complain, because they have got the full liberty to criticise or move amendments, and accuse the Government that the Bill has not been handled according to their likes. It is not proper to suggest that simply because the Hon. Home Minister does not happen to be present here on this occasion, to pilot this Bill through, it should be removed altogether from the field of legislation. The exigencies of Government business sometimes compel responsible Ministers to be away from the City on duty and no Legislature can postpone its business because that particular Member happens to be away. The joint responsibility of the Government is always there and we take up on our heads the entire responsibility of pushing this legislation through and take such advice and opinions as are offered by the House, whether they are in favour of it or against it. Therefore, I do not really see where any impropriety comes in. The hon. Gentleman is reported to have said that it is neither fair, nor courteous, nor equitable that such a measure should be placed before the House in such a manner. I really fail to understand why all these adjectives should come in here. The programme has been circulated to hon. Members already and we are here to answer all the criticisms from the opposition. As the Leader of the House, it is my duty to place before the House such legislations as are necessary and get such legislative sanctions as are required for

23rd February 1948] [Dr. T. S. S. Rajan]

such measures. I may tell you, Sir, that we were not in a hurry with regard to our legislation so far. But now we have been for months sitting together in both Houses and our complaint is that we have not been able to get through our heavy legislative programme rather quickly. It may be that this House does not delay the passing of Bills very much, because of the simple reason that members here are only few as compared with members of the other House. But nobody can say that we have not given enough time or opportunity to the members of the opposition to say what they have got to say, and to criticise what they have got to criticise. So, I really fail to see any propriety at all in the statement made by the hon. Member.

" Secondly, Sir, with regard to the merits of this legislation itself, he has abstained from offering any criticism. Rightly so perhaps, because he does not claim to be a lawyer and he has left it to other lawyer members of the House to criticise it according to their legal standards.

" But he said that the Government ought to have made endeavours to find other ways and means to bring about the result which this piece of legislation is intended to bring. What did he suggest? He suggested that an informal discussion between the parties should have taken place first of all and that the matter should have been placed before them for their acceptance and that their co-operation should have been obtained. For what should their co-operation be secured? It could not have been secured for legislative Acts which are coming before the House. Only their goodwill could have been secured for creating the necessary atmosphere. That was evidently what he meant. Incidentally he complained that the Ministers travelled about and they did not see all the parties while they were on tour and so on. I certainly repudiate that statement in its entirety. Certainly it has always been our policy to meet all and it is good for the administration also that we should meet all people, good, bad, indifferent and hostile, explaining if necessary, what they have to do. But for that we can't carry on the administration or carry the people along with us. My hon. Friend over there challenged us about the lack of confidence that has been created in the public mind. Of course that is a matter that can be tested. That is not a thing that need be challenged on the floor of the legislature and therefore I am not going to make a counter-statement to what he has stated. But I must state that we know and it is to our interests to know that we carry our people with us. It is a democratic Government and in democracy we must carry as far as possible a good portion of public opinion along with us.

11-30
a.m.

" With regard to this Bill, Sir, I must say that it has been before the public for quite a long time and it has been discussed in the other House. Hitherto I have not heard one hostile criticism against the Bill either in the other House or on the platform outside. It means that the people are aware of the grave things that have occurred in the country both in the North and in some places in the South. They are quite aware of the realities. With

[Dr. T. S. S. Rajan] [23rd February 1948]

the limited powers in our possession we have not been able to control things on many occasions. It is true that legislation will not prevent any crime. That is a fact which everybody must concede. Because legislatures enact against so many evils, are not thefts and murders happening every day? Human nature being what it is, we will have to take powers to deal with the critical situations that might arise though we do not look for them. What can you do if a number of people take it into their heads one night simply to take the law into their hands and begin to kill and plunder and assassinate men, women and children. If such a thing happened it would be stupid on the part of any Government if they were to be irresponsible and did not take any action. If they are responsible they should certainly arm themselves with sufficient legislative powers as can be secured with the co-operation of the Legislature.

"Sir, this enactment which is before the House is not a new one. It has been passed by every provincial Assembly in India to-day and perhaps we come late in the scene, much later than they have done. In no Legislative Assembly was there any opposition worth the name which resisted the passage of the Bill. And we have simply more or less copied the Bill wholesale as in Bombay, Bengal and other places where it has been passed and put into the Statute Book. Therefore it is not a question of securing the good will of the various parties. It is not a political question. It is a question of administering justice to take time by the forelock and see that this Government has the powers necessary to handle a situation and that is exactly what the Bill is seeking to do. It may be expropriatory in nature but it is meant to be used only in an emergency.

"Sir, there was talk about this legislation being a panicky legislation. But we shall have to be forewarned and we must be careful to see that such things as have happened in other parts of the country do not happen in this part of the country for lack of necessary legislation and powers with the Government. Sir, it is only with that motive that this legislation has been brought forth before this House. I am simply drawing the attention of a few hon. Members who oppose the Bill to the sad state of affairs that exist elsewhere and where innocent people are being harassed and they become victims of mob outrages in which no reason could exist, except that passions are let loose. Just imagine what has happened there. Lakhs and lakhs of people have been asked to leave their goods behind, their properties behind, their houses behind, all their children have been killed and their women are in rags. You may see this picture in the refugees who are coming into our Province. (Interruption.) They come to us because we house them and take them in. Perhaps it is sheer justice that we should take them in when they come in such a miserable state. Such things happened and we do not want that such things should happen in our midst for want of law that could give protection against such things. To prevent such crimes against innocent people we want to take power through this legislation. Of course legally we may not produce a perfect picture of a constitution or law which would be

23rd February 1948] [Dr. T. S. S. Rajan]

free from blame or could be free from criticism. I am sure that such an Act would be resisted by people who believe in democracy and in the rights of democracy. But, Sir, the democracy has its own limitations. If what has happened in this country is the result of democracy, well, that democracy has got to be handled properly and handled fairly. The justification for this are the innumerable crimes that have been committed and the fact that there have been hundreds of murders and that people have lost their all and have been driven from place to place. All that could be prevented perhaps with a strong hand. I do not deny it. But it is necessary that we should possess powers to meet any unanticipated evil that might come on suddenly and this is the sort of provision which would arm us with powers. But these will not be used ordinarily but only on occasions when it becomes absolutely necessary that we would be entitled to use these powers. That is our justification for introducing this Bill.

"We have been told that we should compose differences between communities and then this Bill would not be necessary. It is not possible to do like that. My hon. Friends accuse us on two points, that the Ministers go about and do not consult conflicting elements and try to compose their differences. That is a charge which I repudiate. The second charge is that this piece of legislation is not enough to meet the great danger with which we are faced in the country. I say, Sir, that this is a very simple piece of legislation giving us certain powers which a democratic Government ought to have to save the country from ravages. It is true that we are a democratic country. It is also true that as a democratic country which is faced with such a tremendous amount of crime the Government should have certain legislative powers. Sir, that is the only justification for the Bill here. Sir, I thought it best to answer my distinguished Friend's criticism which I believe has lost its bearing really in the state in which it is offered."

* RAO BAHADUR SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, this Bill has been subjected to very violent criticism; it has been called 'a Draconian Code', another Rowlatt Act, etc., etc. It is no doubt an extreme piece of legislation intended to forearm the Government with a view to prevent violent outbreaks of law, resulting in looting, rape, arson and plunder. After the 15th of August last events have taken place in other parts of India the mere narration of which will curdle the blood in one's veins. I am not here to apportion blame to any of the parties but I would say that if such a situation should arise in this province our own Government should not be helpless, having at their command only the normal powers under the common law but they should be armed with the requisite powers which they could use should such an emergency arise. It has been pointed out that under clause 3, the Provincial Government may declare that the whole of the Province, or any part thereof specified in the notification 'a disturbed area' and that they may add to, amend, vary or rescind any such declaration. I say, that there are sufficient safeguarding

[Rao Bahadur Sri D. Krishnamurti] [23rd February 1948]

clauses in the Bill itself. No doubt this is an extreme piece of legislation. But, Sir, I have had the misfortune of staying in Delhi in the month of September last from the 7th to the 10th. I saw with these eyes lawlessness, bloodshed, arson, looting, etc., at the Capital City during those days. I had to go in a motor car with an escort. I am not here to blame anybody. I want you to know the situation in Delhi could not be handled immediately for I am not apportioning the blame on this section or that section of the public. Here, we have had certain types of incidents in the border areas of the Andhra Desa adjoining the State of Hyderabad and it will be foolhardy on the part of the Government to sit silently without doing anything to meet should such an emergency arise. Clause 4 confers upon the Government extraordinary powers for enhancing the sentence to meet the situation. It enhances the sentences to one of death. This enhancement is done with a view to infuse terror in the minds of the law-breakers. That is of course an extreme penalty which is likely to be inflicted on the law-breakers under extraordinary circumstances in a disturbed area. Clause 5 is rather loosely worded and it vests the powers in the hands of executive officers. In the Assembly the words 'head constable' have been changed into 'Sub-Inspector'. The amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu would to a certain extent check the misuse of the powers by underlings. It is true that men are actuated by passions and feelings and sentiments play a great part when people resort to mob violence and mass murder. In such a case the executive officer, namely, any magistrate, and in his absence, any police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector may use his extraordinary powers. In normal conditions they cannot use such powers. Now this throws a very heavy burden on the Government. Of course the Government are fully aware, that they are a popular Government and they should not abuse the extraordinary powers which they are taking now under the provisions of the Bill to settle personal grievances or even for electioneering purposes or for any other ulterior objective. It is the duty of the Government to invoke the powers under this Bill in a proper manner and in all sanity without being irresponsible. Should they abuse these powers then they will have to read the writing on the wall that they are found wanting. As a Cabinet consisting of 13 elected Ministers they are responsible to the electorate and they will think twice, nay even ten times, before they declare a particular area to be 'a disturbed area'. I submit that this legislation which is sought to be placed in the Statute Book is intended to be invoked only under extraordinary circumstances for proper and adequate grounds. I do not credit the Government with any ulterior motives for trying to redress private grievances under the cloak of this Act. I expect that the Government will rise above all these considerations in exercising the powers conferred by this Bill.

"This Bill seems to have been hastily drafted and therefore certain mistakes have crept in. They should have clearly and logically defined what is 'a disturbed area'. That is one of the defects

[23rd February 1948] [Rao Bahadur Sri D. Krishnamurti]

in the Bill.* They should have defined it in the Bill, instead of leaving it for a special connotation to be given as and when occasion arise. They should have made clear their intentions regarding the declaration of a particular area as a disturbed area. Lastly clause 6 requires a slight modification. Clause 6 reads, 'No prosecution, suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted, except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government against any person in respect of anything done or purporting to be done in exercise of the powers conferred by section 5.'

"This should be slightly amended with a view to bring under 11-45 control the executive officers. Executive officers who abuse the powers conferred on them under clause 5—Deputy Collectors or magistrates or police officers—should be told that they will be taken to task if they are found to have abused their powers conferred on them by the provisions of this Bill. The whole clause 6 may be omitted or amended. I place before the House an hypothetical case. Suppose, taking advantage of the fact that a particular area has been declared 'a disturbed area', an executive officer shoots down a man for private reasons. Now he is free from all blame, and this clause emboldens him to shoot down men as and when he likes. He will be free from any after-effects for any act he does. But when once these officers are told that their decision can be challenged in a court of law, if they should have abused their powers there will be greater sense of responsibility and there will be greater sense of duty in them. This clause seeks to give absolute immunity from challenging the actions of officers done in the heat of the moment or for ulterior purposes, and also those acts done with a view to protect the life and property, and prevent disturbances. But, why the ordinary right of a citizen to challenge the decision in a court of law is removed? I am afraid a certain amount of self-complacency and dare-devilness will set in in the mentality of the executive. They are the underlings of police and magistrates are not responsible like the Ministers. Ministers know that they are responsible to the electorate for all they do, and should they transgress, their conduct will be reviewed, and they will have to face the electorate on that issue. But, in the case of subordinate magistrates or police officers who use powers for ulterior purposes, whatever they do will be sacrosanct, and their conduct cannot be questioned without the previous sanction of the Government. According to me, clause 6 seems to be rather unnecessary. If an officer does an act which is not *bona fide*, and which is intended to serve personal ends, his conduct should be challenged in an ordinary court of law without let or hindrance. His conduct should be questioned in a competent court of law, and the offender should be brought to book. You want to award enhanced sentences for offences mentioned in clause 4 of the Bill with a view to create terror in the minds of the people who want to break the law under peculiar circumstances. But you are creating in the mind of the Inspectors an impression that they are immune from any criticism: and they and the magistracy can do what they like. Sir, this will put a premium on their irresponsibility and indiscretion. May I

[Rao Bahadur Sri D. Krishnamurti] [23rd February 1948]

ask the Minister in charge what is it that going to happen to an officer, if his conduct is questioned in a court of law subsequently? Why should a provision be enacted to protect him for all acts of commission and omission? I venture to submit that by giving such extraordinary powers to the subordinate magistrates and executive authorities, Government will be placing in their hands tools of a very dangerous character which are likely to be used to the greatest detriment of public peace. This will ultimately redound to the discredit of the popular Government. When once a man is shot down, his life is gone. It is very difficult to get evidence. But, where there is evidence, and where the relatives of the dead person want to question the conduct and decision of the police officer, they should have a right and opportunity to do so without the previous sanction of the Government. Sir, Government is a corporate body, and their information is always based upon the information of the subordinate officers—Inspector of Police, District Superintendent of Police and the Inspector-General of Police, one chain of officers approving the action of the police officer. The result is that it would be very difficult for a person to get justice.

"With these words, I suggest that for the present, a Bill of this type is absolutely necessary in the interests of preserving public order. It is better that the Government have forearmed themselves with ample powers with a view to tell those people who are interested in breaking the public peace and order that their conduct will meet with severe punishment including capital punishment. With these remarks, Sir, I support the Bill and request the Government to drop or alter clause 6 of the bill if they have no serious objection."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House just told us that Bills can be introduced and discussed by any member of the Government even though the subject may not relate to his portfolio. It is not the first occasion, Sir, when we felt that the Member in charge of a particular portfolio ought to be here when matters relating to that portfolio are discussed. We have on more than one occasion brought this matter to the notice of this House. It is not because we feel any disparagement about the Member who temporarily handles the Bill, but because we feel that the Government Member who temporarily handles a Bill may not, under ordinary circumstances, be able to give us full information. It is on account of that and on account of that alone we insisted that Bills must be introduced by Government Members who deal with the subject from day to day. It is not with any idea of disparagement or belittling their position that we have been saying that. It is only our desire to get full information and therefore we said that. The other day, Sir, when the Revenue Minister was absent, we felt that the Member for Agriculture may not be quite competent or may not be able to give all the information that we required, and you know, Sir, that Government also in the end recognized that. We are thankful to Government for that. In the same manner, the Hon. Minister for Agriculture is

23rd February 1948] [K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur]

not handling the portfolio to which this Bill relates. He is handling the portfolio only temporarily. It is only a make-shift arrangement. The moment, the Hon. Minister for Home returns, the Minister for Agriculture will have to hand over that portfolio to him. His interest also in the matter will only be temporary. That is why, Sir, we insist that when such matters of a vital importance come up for discussion, the Member in charge of the portfolio should handle it. It is not going to matter much if the Bill is delayed for two or three days. That is all I have to say in the absence of my hon. Friend on this side.

"It is said that a situation has arisen in the country which demands urgently the passing of such a draconian law. I remember once it was said by somebody that Mussolini wanted to enforce his hand with a very powerful legislative weapon. He asked one of his friends what to do to bring some law to this effect, and that friend at once suggested 'the best way is to import the Indian Penal Code here'. Sir, our Indian Penal Code is so drastic, so terrible that even Mussolini hesitated to introduce such clauses in Italian law. Now, what is it that the Bill says? Government demand a power to declare 'miniature Martial Law' to prevent bloodshed or riots in the country by declaring village miniature Martial Laws. That is the position. I am not a lawyer. I do not wish to deal with the details of the law. But the effect of the Bill is that they want to declare miniature Martial Law. Sir, Government have to be careful in this. I warn them—rather I advise them—that there are political parties in this country who will use that power against anybody. At least the present Government have got belief in God and belief in moral law. But there are parties in the country who have no morality. They do not seem to believe in God. All that they believe in is 'expediency'. We do not know whether the same party will continue in power or whether some other party will come into power in the future. If we enact such a law and leave it in the hands of such people, every one of us will have to repent at a time when repentance would be of no avail. It will be like the atom bomb. Once Germany, America and England wanted it. Now every nation wishes that it had not discovered such a thing at all. That is the position, Sir, now. This legislation is not going to be a panacea for the ills.

"Have you not got the ordinary Police or the Special Police? Why these Police cannot be used? They will do the work better than the ordinary Sub-Inspector or the Assistant Sub-Inspector. If the ordinary Police and the Special Police cannot deal with the situation and control it, then leave it to the Military. They are better people; they are honourable people. They will do it better and in a more thorough manner than the ordinary Police Sub-Inspector. That is all I have to say on this matter. I would advise the Government to be careful before they forge such a terrible weapon and leave it for the future which may rebound on everybody."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, very strong criticisms have been levelled against

12
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[Sri K. Madhava Menon] [23rd February 1948]

this Bill. As I said in the very beginning, there are some drastic clauses in this Bill, but I am afraid, an unnecessary ghost has been kicked up and an impression given that this is such an outrageous measure and that nowhere in the country or nowhere in the world such a legislation has been enacted. I do not want to be misunderstood if I say that certain cheap jibes have been thrown at us, saying, "Are you not a popular Government? Are you not a Democratic Government? Is this what we expect a Popular Government or a Democratic Government to do?" I forthwith say, Sir, that we pride ourselves that we are a popular Government or a Democratic Government. I say a popular Government or a democratic Government is expected to govern and not to allow anarchy to overtake us without any warning. We must govern and govern in the best interests of the Province and protect the life and properties of the citizens. So, you cannot say, because it is a democratic Government, no powers should be taken to protect the people, to protect our own brothers and sisters from being killed, abducted or raped. Such powers we have to take to meet emergencies. Otherwise, we are not worth the name of a democratic Government or a popular Government.

"Sir, I will reply to the general charge levelled against the Police. Some hon. Members have said, you are going to give power to the Police who have been very mad all through and who have always been shooting people at sight. But, Sir, we have to understand the Police during the period before August 15th and the period after August 15th. I want also to place before the House that the policeman is an Indian. He is no longer a mercenary and he has the interest of the country at heart and thinks that the people of this land are his own people. I may also state that every now and then, calls for Police assistance are coming to us and we have to answer them. At the same time, some hon. Members threw cheap jibes at us saying that we are giving enormous power to the policemen who are irresponsible, who have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Sir, such general talks are not warranted under the circumstances that we are living. I say, Sir, that a policeman feels as strongly as anyone does. He feels that he has got his own stake in the country as anyone else. He also wants this country to be properly governed.

"With these general remarks, Sir, may I just point out that this is not the only Province where this legislation has been carried out? My hon. Friend, Mr. Farookhi, said that it is a Draconian code. But, I may say that other Provinces in India passed this legislation much earlier because they had the necessity to pass it. In the Bengal Province, for instance, they have passed an identical Bill without any change. Not even a comma has been changed. The Bengal Bill says: 'Any Magistrate, and any Police Officer not below the rank of an Assistant Sub-Inspector, may, if in his opinion, etc., etc.' We have no Assistant Sub-Inspectors here. It says: 'Any Magistrate and any Police Officer not below the rank of an Assistant Sub-Inspector, may,

23rd February 1948] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

if in his opinion, it is necessary so to do for restoring or maintaining public order, after giving such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary, fire upon, or otherwise use force, even to the causing of death, etc., etc.' That is what is contained in section 5 of our Bill. Again, the Bengal Bill contains a clause similar to clause 6 in our Bill, viz., 'No prosecution, suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted, except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government, against any person in respect of anything done or purporting to be done in exercise of the powers conferred.' "

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"What is the reason for this identity, Sir?"

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I wanted to point out that it is not this Government alone that has taken such powers. One hon. Member said that this Provincial Government alone has taken such Draconian powers, and that no other Provincial Government has taken such powers. I want to point out that Bombay, Bengal, the North West Frontier Province and also the Punjab have passed identical Bills."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Has the Hon. Minister no better argument?"

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I am also following at times the practice of quoting precedents as a lawyer which, I hope, my hon. Friend would not object. Even in the North West Frontier Bill, they have got identical sentence. The Punjab Bill also contains the same sentences. So, it is not as if by a brain-wave, this Provincial Government want to take certain powers and to introduce certain changes. In fact, the other Governments took it up much earlier. Sir, I entirely agree with Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar who said that the treatment of symptoms is not the right thing. I may state, Sir, that we are taking these powers not to treat the symptoms alone. These powers are necessary to do much more fundamental things. These are intended to deal with certain situations, certain happenings, so that those happenings might not recur. It would be a most terrible thing if such happenings were to take us unawares. I want you, Sir, to visualise such a situation.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was asking, will not the ordinary law suffice? No, Sir. As a lawyer, I can tell him that the only provision under which we can deal with such situations, is section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, whereby we can prohibit certain things. But, I want him to visualize a situation where certain people are set up with a particular object to create mischief or goaded by particular interests. I do not mean communal troubles alone, Sir. Many other troubles are quite possible."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Has the Hon. Minister studied the Police Manual where powers already exist for the Police to take action in those cases?"

[23rd February 1948]

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I may tell the hon. Member, Sir, that those sections more or less give powers for protecting oneself. Such powers are given as a sort of protection under the Penal Code and such provisions will not be sufficient to control certain contingencies that may arise, contingencies, where excited people may go to loot, where our children may be killed or our brothers and sisters abducted or raped. If such a situation arises, the powers which are indicated in this Bill are necessary in order to act promptly to deal with such situations. It is rather amusing to me to hear that I should not quote precedents and I hope Dr. John will not accuse me of quoting precedents. In the other House, the Leader of the Opposition and the entire Muslim League Party more or less supported the Bill. They only said that Government should be careful in using such powers when the situation arose. But, here, perhaps other considerations might have prevailed to say that everything about this Bill is wrong.

“ Sir, let me analyse how this Bill is not so dangerous as it is purported to be. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was saying, what is the use of your Bill; you have first to declare an area as a disturbed area. Yes. Speeches were made that this Bill, when passed, would give extraordinary powers to a Sub-Inspector to shoot anybody, at any time and under any circumstances. That is not so. Sir. We are trying to give, as much as human ingenuity can give, sufficient protection and to see that such contingencies do not arise. Where there is trouble going on, where unrestricted looting, arson, abductions or rape are going on. I do not want to say with what motives—in such contingencies, the area has to be declared as a disturbed area. It is only in such cases, where an area has been declared as a disturbed area, these provisions will come into force so that more mischief may not be done. It is only to prevent further mischief being done that this is enacted. It is only when a house is on fire, we bring in fire engines so that the houses may not be burnt. On that account, we do not keep houses wet so that they may not be attacked by fire. In cases where such mischief is anticipated, you can impose section 144. But there has been difficulty for a Magistrate to take action under section 144, where there is nothing to act in anticipation of certain circumstances. There are certain things which we cannot foresee and in such cases, if we are to take action, immediately we can declare the area as a disturbed area and make use of the provisions of this Act.

“ Then, Sir, with regard to section 4, I did not see much of opposition. Even Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, relentless as his criticism was, had no objection to section 4 because, after all, it is only a question of wording. Some hon. Members pointed out that those cases should be tried by a Sessions Judge or by a Jury or by an Assessor as the case may be. As I said in the beginning let us analyse the nature of the offences referred to here. They are—attempted murder, abduction, rape, mischief by fire, arson,

[23rd February 1948] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

dacoity and so on. It has been asked whether people are not committing murders although there is the death penalty. That is the argument. But here I do not want to go into the ethics of the question of capital punishment. I have myself found it difficult to make up my mind on petitions for mercy. That is a different matter. Here we are enacting a legislation that should act as a deterrent on criminals intent on committing arson, looting, dacoity and so on. When conditions are disturbed some people want to make money by looting and dacoity and their idea is to make use of that money and live happily afterwards. They might not have that feeling if they come to know that they cannot get away with the loot and that they are likely to be punished with death. That will be a deterrent. Where there is serious disorder and where grave offences like looting, arson, abduction, rape and dacoity are committed, if we say that the offenders are liable to be punished with death in such cases, it is not a very harsh thing of which we need feel very nervous.

“ Sir, the gravamen of the attack has been on clause 5. I was rather surprised to find such able lawyers like Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu and Dr. John saying that the Bill gives indiscriminate powers to anybody to shoot. There is power given to shoot, but under what circumstances? An order is promulgated by a magistrate or any person duly authorised to promulgate an order under section 144 in a disturbed area. Simply because the Government have notified an area as a disturbed area, it does not give power to the police or the magistrate to shoot indiscriminately. Something more is required. The area must be declared to be a disturbed area and it must be followed by an order prohibiting certain things being done. Suppose a magistrate having jurisdiction passes an order prohibiting the assembly of more than 5 persons, then if any person contravenes that order in the disturbed area and if there is no other go except to resort to drastic powers, they will be resorted to to carry out the orders. A curfew order is passed and a man refuses to obey and he goes on looting and plundering. The Sub-Inspector or the man in charge of the thing, cannot wait till he gets a warrant from the magistrate or get the magistrate there, explain to him the nature of the offences committed and get his permission to shoot. The mischief will all have been done by the time the power is got in this way. What section 5 says is this:

“ The officer may fire upon, or otherwise use force, even to the causing of death, against any person who in a disturbed area is acting in contravention of any law or order for the time being in force in such area prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons or the carrying of weapons or of things capable of being used as weapons.”

Sir, to say that even a pen-knife may be considered to be a weapon by the Sub-Inspector of Police is, if I may use Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar's expression, a ludicrous absurdity. To say that even a person carrying a pen-knife may be shot at is entirely wrong. (Interruption.) The weapon should be declared as a weapon one should not carry.”

[23rd February 1948]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is there a definition of ' weapon ' anywhere in the Bill? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" A definition of ' weapon ' is not necessary. If there is an order prohibiting the carrying of weapons whether it be a pen-knife or not—it might include a pen-knife, it might include a pin also—if there is an order that you should not carry any weapon in a disturbed area, the carrying of a weapon is certainly an offence and it has to be prevented and action has got to be taken. I do not want to make things look ridiculous. Even a pin may be a weapon. A weapon is a thing with which you may commit an offence. (Interruption.) The courts are there to interpret the law. It is an attempt to make things look alarming to say that even a person who carries a pen-knife in a disturbed area is liable to be shot at. It is not so. If in a disturbed area the carrying of weapons is prohibited the power to use force comes in only if anybody contravenes that particular order prohibiting the carrying of weapons."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Then every order must contain the nature of the weapons prohibited. It is not in the Act."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We have not seen the definition in any penal enactment. In the Indian Penal Code the words " weapon " and " dangerous weapon " have been used though there is no definition of the word. The courts have not found any difficulty in deciding what these weapons are and I do not think the courts are going to find it difficult in these cases also."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The Sub-Inspector has to decide."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" As regards the Sub-Inspector, I certainly feel that he will not be so ridiculous as to imagine that if I carry a pin, it is a weapon with which I can commit mischief. It is not correct to create a bogey that anybody can be shot at in a disturbed area."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" What about weapons foisted by the Police? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I have answered the unfair general charge against the Police. Nobody is interested in agent provocateurs. It is not correct to say that anybody can shoot at anybody in a disturbed area, although drastic powers are taken."

" Then Sir, with regard to section 6, objection has been taken to the provision that previous sanction of the Government should be taken for the prosecution of any person in respect of anything done under this Act. This provision is necessary. In a contingency like this you should not leave the officer concerned in doubt as to what he should do. If he is exposed to the fear of prosecutions for any act which he has to do in contingencies like this

[23rd February 1948] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

when large scale murders and looting are going on, if he has to wait and see whether his action would be approved or not, if he is exposed to prosecution for anything done by him, it would mean that you would be putting him in such a position of fear that he will not take the right action in the right time." (Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao rose to interrupt.)

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Minister is not yielding."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Police officer concerned should not be in a position of uncertainty and nervousness and think that he is likely to be exposed to prosecution even for things done properly. Under the circumstances he has to be protected in a legislation of this sort intended to meet unforeseen contingencies and not ordinary situations."

" Sir, another general remark which has been made is that this is nothing more than the Rowlatt Act. Sir, I should say this is an odious comparison. The Rowlatt Act and other criminal laws were made not for the protection of the people at large but for suppressing those people who wanted to overthrow the alien government in this country and establish an independent government. These people were fighting for the independence of the country but not for dacoity, not for arson and not for rape. They were fighting a foreign government in order to get independence and legislation like the Rowlatt Act was undertaken to suppress this freedom movement. Sir, to compare this legislation undertaken by an independent Indian Government, a Popular Government as we are called, for the protection of the community as a whole from certain contingencies which might occur, to compare a legislation of this kind with the Rowlatt Act and similar legislation undertaken by the British Government when we were fighting for independence and trying to throw off the foreign yoke, is to say the least, very odious. The comparison has no force in the discussion of a Bill like this."

" I have nothing more to add, Sir. The intention behind the Bill is only to prevent crime. It may be said that even the devil does not know the mind of man and if people are to be hanged for their intentions, many of us might not remain here. But, Sir, you have to take us to be ordinary men and not extraordinary men. We have been avoiding the taking of these powers as much as we could. We have seen the signs of the times. In the other provinces, even though they have taken these powers much harm has been done. We want to avoid such a contingency happening by taking time by the forelock. If any such contingency happens—God forbid—we want to give as much protection as the Government can to the person and property of the people. That is the reason why we have brought forward this Bill."

" Sir, the hon. Member Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar and Mr. Suryanarayana Rao said, and rightly said that the Home Minister should have been here to pilot this Bill. It is true, Sir,

[Sri K. Madhava Menon] [23rd February 1948]

it would have been better if the Home Minister had been here to pilot this Bill. But he has to be away at Delhi in connexion with certain urgent matters. The Government cannot delay the taking of these powers much longer. If we do not pass this Bill now, we cannot do anything till the budget session is over. The Home Minister is attending a conference of Home Ministers at Delhi. I know definitely the objection is not because I am moving this Bill. The objection is that the Minister primarily responsible for looking after this matter will be able to give more information than what I have been able to give. I may say, Sir, that this matter has been decided at a Cabinet meeting and so I do not think the Home Minister has got any more information than any other Minister. Sir, we visualise not only communal trouble but other troubles also which are now brewing in various parts of this Province. There is an organized attempt to clutch at power by some means or other and create disorder in the country. We have to be careful and see that we are not taken unawares and tremendous harm done in certain parts of the country before we could take action. Labour troubles are there; everyone knows the conditions in Coimbatore. We have to be prepared for any disturbance on a vast scale. I know it may be asked: 'Are you going to use these powers in connexion with labour troubles?' It is not so.

12-30
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"We are not going to use this Act in the case of labour troubles. At a time when there is a labour trouble, other people will take advantage of it and create greater trouble not only for the capitalists but for the entire community living in a place. Such powers are necessary when such occasions arise. I hope hon. Members would not cross-examine me. The Act is not intended to be used against any person, it is not intended against any community. It is intended for the protection of the community, not against any individuals or class of persons. That is why we are asking for these powers. Hon. Members must trust us that we will not abuse the powers. My hon. Friend, Mr. Uppi Sahib warned us to be careful. We say we will be careful. We have to bear in mind that this Bill is in the interest of people in general. I have nothing more to say at this stage. When particular amendments are moved, I shall say then what I have to. I need not reply at this stage to the general trend of the discussion and to some opposition regarding particular clauses."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"A word of personal explanation, Mr. President, Sir. I am sorry that owing to unavoidable circumstances I was not present when the Leader of the House was addressing us. I should like to make it very clear that the other day when I took objection to the absence of the Hon. Home Minister at the time of the consideration of this very important Bill, I had not the least intention of casting any reflection on the Hon. Minister who is moving the Bill now. It is a misfortune that in both cases the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon piloted the Bills in the absence of the Minister actually in charge. I do say this: I gave three specific reasons: First of all, the

23rd February 1948] [Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar]

Hon. Minister will be in a position to give such information as it is possible only for him to have in his possession, which will probably convince us. Secondly, I had intended to ask for a session in camera to discuss this Bill threadbare. Lastly and most important of all, the Hon. Home Minister must be aware of the suggestions that are put forward by hon. Members of this House so that he might be in a better position—whether this Bill is passed or not, I know it is going to be passed—to reflect calmly and to consider whether he should, in the discharge of his duties, in the administration of this Bill, bring forward or accept any amendments that he might feel necessary after having had the advantage of having the opinions expressed by his colleagues here.

"If you will permit me, I shall give an example. When the Shop Assistants Bill was brought forward before this House, the Hon. Minister in charge then, the Hon. Sri Sitarama Reddi, moved it. In the course of the discussion of the Bill he stated that neither the Medical profession or the Legal profession would be included in the definition of Shop Assistants. At a later stage the Hon. Dr. Rajan, who was previously in charge of the Bill, said that the Legal and the Medical professions were included within the provisions of that Bill. The Hon. Minister who piloted the Bill in the absence of Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan was fully ignorant of the intentions of the Bill. This instance proves the necessity of the Hon. Minister actually in charge of the Bill being present when the Bill is taken into consideration.

"One word more and I shall finish. This House is always prepared to respond to the wishes of the Government with regard to the sittings of the House. We shall not, under any circumstances, withhold the privilege of the Government asking for an evening or a night sitting of this House for considering a very important Bill of this kind. The Home Minister is likely to come here this evening or to-morrow evening. No hon. Member of this House will object to the Government always asking for a sitting of this House in the evening from 5 to 8. I am sure the President of the Council will not in any way interfere with the wishes of the Government in such a matter.

"I do not think it is fair, when we take exception to certain principles, that it should be suggested that we have an ulterior motive. I have no ulterior motive . . ."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I never attributed any motive at all."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am anxious to give my best support to the Government when we are told that there is likely to be some trouble to the public. I wish to give every encouragement to the Government in the heavy task they have before them. That was the only reason why I stated that it was unfortunate that the Home Minister was not present here."

[23rd February 1948]

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I am moving an amendment under Rule 106 of the Council Rules. Rule 105 says that the general provisions of the Bill may be discussed when the Bill is under consideration. Rule 106 says that any member may, if the Bill has not already been referred to a Select Committee of the Assembly or to a Joint Committee of both Chambers, move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. If such a motion is carried the Bill shall be referred to a Select Committee and the rules regarding Select Committees on Bills originating in the Chamber shall then apply. This provision is intended by the Legislature to meet an occasion like this. In this Presidency at least, no emergency has arisen now. This Bill is a very important Bill. Although the provisions of this Bill have been copied from Acts passed by other Provinces, it touches the freedom of the person and the property of the individual. Therefore it should go before a Select Committee. No Select Committee of the Assembly or any joint Select Committee has considered this Bill. Therefore I move that a Select Committee be appointed, so that the Bill may be considered threadbare. The Home Minister also will be present when the Select Committee meets. The reasons why this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee have been mentioned by various hon. Members while discussing the general principles of the Bill. I heard my hon. Friend Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar vehemently protesting against the Bill not being considered by a Select Committee. The rules give us an opportunity to move such an amendment. I hope the Government will not oppose this motion because nothing is lost by referring this Bill to a Select Committee and by discussing there the various provisions of the Bill. This House will have the benefit of this important Bill being considered by the Select Committee. During the course of discussion it has been mentioned that unimportant Bills had been referred to Select Committees and Joint Select Committees. This is a most important Bill that has ever come before the House and it should certainly be considered by a Select Committee. For some reason or other, this Bill was not referred to a Select Committee of the Assembly. We need not investigate the reasons. Rule 106 envisages such a situation. Otherwise such a rule need not have been enacted, there will be no opportunity for the application of this rule. This rule may be applied by the House at this stage. Otherwise, in my submission, this rule will be a dead letter. I cannot think of any objection on the part of the Government to refer this Bill to a Select Committee consisting of members of this House. With these words I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee.”

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, I second the motion. The Government should not run. The Bill should not run. The Government is not going to come to a standstill because the Bill is referred to a Select Committee. This is a vital measure as my hon. Friend put it. It touches the freedom of the individual; it touches the life of the individual. This is a Public Safety Bill. This is not an ordinary and simple Bill as though we can run with

23rd February 1948] [Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu]

it. It deserves every consideration and discussion at the hands of hon. Members; therefore it should be referred to a Select Committee. It is not a question of withholding support to the Government in such a necessary measure. But the question is what powers should be given and under what circumstances. There are certain other matters to be considered in connexion with this legislation. This Bill has far-reaching effects not only on the liberty but also on the life of an individual. Therefore it should be referred to a Select Committee.”

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Sir, I rise to a point of order. Under Rule 90, notice of this motion should have been sent to the Secretary of the Council in writing three days before the sitting of the Council. Of course you, Sir, have the right to waive such notice. In this case no notice has been given to you beforehand. You have not been asked to waive notice. The hon. Member has not given you any notice at all and I submit that there is no amendment before the House to be considered.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, I am sorry that the Government is taking such an objection. The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon while introducing the Bill, said that this Bill was published in November 1947. Till the other day they did not think it necessary to rush the Bill through both the Houses. There seems to be no hurry. It does not matter very much after all if the passage of the Bill is delayed by a few days. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar stated that we are willing to sit in the nights if necessary. All that we want is that every consideration should be given to various points of view. If the Government do not agree to this motion, it means that they do not want to give reasonable opportunity to this House to consider this Bill carefully but to carry through the measure at any cost and that too immediately.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I am surprised that the Hon. Minister should take objection on the ground that this motion has not been given notice of. After all, this Bill was discussed on Saturday and to-day is Monday; so 3 days' notice could not be given. Usually we find that Bills are rushed through this House after they are passed by the Assembly. Three days' notice could not be given in this case. The President always allows such motions. After the general discussion of the Bill I consider that my motion is necessary. There was general discussion of the Bill under rule 105. Only after the general discussion of the Bill, the necessity may rise for moving such a motion as mine. The House now considers that the Bill should not be rushed through. Under Rule 106 I move my amendment. Rule 90 does not actually apply to my amendment. It is in the discretion of the President to allow such an amendment to be moved. I ask you, Sir, to allow me to move this amendment. Such a permission can be given by you. The Hon. Minister says that no notice was given previously. After hearing the criticisms made by this side of the House I expected that the Hon. Minister might withdraw this Bill. We have given very valid reasons against clauses 5 and 6 of the Bill. The

[Dr. V. K. John] [23rd February 1946]

Hon. Minister does not agree with us. Therefore I am quite in order now to get up, after general discussion, and to move this amendment under Rule 106. It is in your discretion to grant me permission. My amendment can be moved at this stage and I request you to give me leave to move it. If the Government do not want to have a Select Committee to consider this Bill it is a different matter. They should not oppose my amendment on technical grounds. I am voicing the opinion of a large number of Members in this House. I deeply regret that the Hon. Minister gets up and puts forward a technical objection and not one on merits."

12-45 P.M. THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"I think, that when an objection is raised, I must rule that this amendment is out of order because Dr. John has already spoken in the beginning and he has also given written amendments which are before the House. He has not given this amendment in time and at the end when the Chair is going to put the motion to the vote of the House. Dr. John springs this surprise on us. I rule that it is not within the rules for Dr. John now to move this amendment of which no notice has been given. Therefore, I think I must rule this amendment as out of order."

"Now, the motion before the House is that the Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill, 1947, as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once."

The motion was declared carried but was challenged. (The bells were rung.) The motion was once more put and declared carried. This being challenged, the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon | 12 Sri T. Purushotham. |
| 2 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 13 „ N. Ramabhadra Raju. |
| 3 Sri M. Narayana Menon. | 14 „ A. Govindacharyulu. |
| 4 „ B. Bhima Rao. | 15 „ C. Perumalswami Reddiyar. |
| 5 „ L. Subbarama Reddi. | 16 „ M. K. Sundarama Iyer. |
| 6 „ S. K. Satagopa Mudaliyar. | 17 „ S. Jayaram Reddiar. |
| 7 „ M. Narayana Rao. | 18 Mr. A. S. T. F. Rodrigues. |
| 8 „ N. Sankara Reddi. | 19 Sri N. Ranga Reddi. |
| 9 „ N. Venkatachalamaji. | 20 „ P. R. K. Sarma. |
| 10 „ C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 21 „ A. R. L. Pathy. |
| 11 „ K. Natarajan. | 22 „ C. Veerabhadra Rao. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Dr. V. K. John. | 7 Dr. Sir A. Lakshman swamy Mudaliyar. |
| 2 Sri H. M. Jagannatham. | 8 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. |
| 3 „ R. Suryanarayana Rao. | 9 Abdul Latif Farooqui Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4 Mrs. M. N. Clubwala. | 10 K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| 5 „ M. Hensman. | 11 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. | |

Ayes 22, Noes 11.

The motion was carried.

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. Deputy President, I know there is no use of moving any amendments.

23rd February 1948] [Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu]

I am not at all concerned with the result and my purpose is to bring to the notice of the House the serious import of the Bill and I am not going to relax from it any jot.

"I want the House to realize that this Bill is nothing short of Regulation II of 1804 enabling Government to introduce martial law. The main point is that you want to put people in terror by the fear of hanging, saying that if one disobeys the orders, he would be hanged. I undoubtedly consider that this sort of martial law is not at all necessary and should not find a place in the Statute Book. It is always understood that proclamation declaring martial law should be done on the basis of certain facts. The Disorders Enquiry Committee says that before a declaration is made it should be stated that certain things exist there; it may be a rebellion or the activities of the people indulging in smashing of communications, smashing of buildings and other things and it may be in connection with war. Then in the interests of the maintenance of peace in the country, having regard to the rebellion or disorders or the state of war, martial law is declared. Regarding the section I do not even see under what conditions an area may be declared as a disturbed area and nothing is stated here except that Government might by notification declare it to be such. I wish to state what occurred in the Punjab before the martial law days, though I know you are not going to carry it out. They appraised the Chief Justice of the High Court of the circumstances existing at the time and obtained his concurrence for the declaration of martial law. I do hope and wish that before you declare an area as a disturbed area, you have the sanction of the Chief Justice justifying to his satisfaction the action you propose to take. Member after member have said that one must be very careful about declaring specific areas as declared areas. Not only that, when the Police say that they cannot control the area and the Military Commander of the area feels like that, you can get the consent of the Chief Justice. It is in your own interests that I say you justify your action to the satisfaction of the Chief Justice. This is what happened in the Punjab, the Lieut. Governor of the Punjab apprised the Chief Justice of the position obtaining in the country and obtained his consent. It is regrettable to note that nothing definite has been stated in the Bill. When my hon. Friend wants to suggest labour troubles or communal troubles or internal dissensions, the Hon. Minister did not controvert. Will you justify the awarding of death sentences in these cases? I say there must be something specific and some good and valid reason for it; they may not divulge it to us but all the same they must have it. You also get the consent of the Area Commander because you will find the civil officers unable to cope with the situation and again and again military help will have to be taken. I suggest this in the interests of Government themselves though I do not believe they will accept it."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"It is clear after the speech of the Hon. Minister that some such safeguards, as have been mentioned by the hon. Member who just spoke before me, are required. The

[Dr. V. K. John] [23rd February 1948]

Hon. Minister said that an area may be declared as disturbed area not only on account of communal troubles but also on account of labour problems such as the one which we are having at Coimbatore. Sir, if that is the idea of the Government, this House would ask for safeguards against Government acting arbitrarily. I support the suggestion made by the hon. Member Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu that the Chief Justice must also concur in declaring an area as disturbed area."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no amendment before the House. It is only a suggestion by the hon. Member Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu that in declaring an area as disturbed area there must be certain facts to do so. I agree with him that there must be certain facts before us, before we declare an area as disturbed area. There is no difference of opinion. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu is giving the suggestion that 'before we declare an area as disturbed area, you take the best advice and possibly the Chief Justice is the best advice.' His advice will certainly be borne in mind. There is no amendment before the House and this is an administrative matter and there is nothing to be answered."

Clauses 2 and 3 were put and carried.

Clause 4.

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Mr. Deputy President, I move—

*"At the end of sub-clause (1), the following shall be added :—
"if for reasons recorded in writing the Court shall find that death sentence is the only proper punishment to be awarded in the circumstances".*

Under the martial law, the only penalty is death. Here with regard to murder, arson, mischief by fire, Government want to substitute the penalty of death. My amendment merely suggests that the reasons for awarding the sentence must be recorded in writing, showing that that is the only proper sentence to be awarded in the circumstances. As a matter of fact, Government themselves after the disorders commuted death sentences into transportation for life. I think that there must be this salutary safeguard so that the accused persons may not be in terror. Terrorising may be necessary in certain circumstances but here it is not at all necessary and it should be exercised in the last resort; if the judge feels that it is necessary, what all is required, is that he must record his reasons and give the sentence. I have no doubt of the answer I would have and it would not take long for me to see what kind of answer it will be."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I have only to add that when a serious punishment like death is provided for, it is only in order to provide that good reasons must be given if this penalty is imposed on him."

1 p.m. * THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not see why the implicit faith which Dr. John and others have in our

[Sri K. Madhava Menon]

23rd February 1948] judges should suddenly disappear in this case. I have greater faith in the judges because I have yet to read a judgment in a case in which death penalty is one of the penalties in respect of the offence where he has not given reasons for giving a lesser sentence on the basis of mitigating circumstance which should allow or enable him to give a lesser sentence. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu said that two sentences are provided for an offence under the ordinary criminal law. There is not much difference here also. This is only an alternative punishment that is provided for in this case. We say that in cases of abetment of, or attempted murder, loot, arson, etc., the alternative punishment of death may also be given. The law as it stands provides that the judge must give his reason why he is giving the lesser sentence when there are alternative punishments provided under the law; but Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu wants the converse of it to be done. No Sessions Judge has till now not discussed the quantum of punishment, why he should give the lesser of the two sentences. I challenge Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu who had been a very renowned Public Prosecutor, to tell me of one judge who has not discussed while awarding the sentence, mitigating circumstances for giving the lesser of the two sentences. Every judge will do it. This is only a measure of abundant caution which my friend wants. That is the very thing which every judge does. There is only one case according to the Indian Penal Code where there is no alternative punishment except death. That is in the case of a person undergoing a sentence of transportation committing murder. The only punishment provided is death. In certain cases under the Martial Law, death is the only punishment and judges have no option. But in this case the judges have the option to award any of the two alternative punishments. And if the judge thinks, having regard to the particular circumstances of the case, that death sentence should be given, he might give the death sentence. Thus, there is no necessity for the amendment."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" I am sorry, Mr. Deputy President, that the Hon. Minister seems to flout the resolution passed at the Lawyers' Conference at Masulipatam that when death sentence is given the judges should give reasons. When a judge gives a sentence, he wants to discuss the question of punishment because there is no stay power with him; he must award the death sentence if there are no extenuating circumstances in favour of the accused person. Otherwise the High Court will step in and say that death punishment must be given. You will have to realize that the punishment for these offences under the ordinary law is only transportation for life or imprisonment for seven years. Death sentence should only come in as a last resort and that for definite reasons which I say must be recorded in writing. I am very sorry that the Hon. Minister thinks that I am suggesting the reverse of what obtains now. In the one case the Sessions Judge gives the reason for awarding the lesser sentence, so that the High Court may not find fault with him. I want that reasons should be recorded for awarding death sentence because the lawyers' conference has put forward that suggestion and because under the ordinary law, lesser sentences are prescribed for such offences."

[23rd February 1948]

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ Because in clause 4 (1) you want to substitute ‘ transportation for life ’ for ‘ death ’ which is a lesser punishment, I would like to put that first before the other. I suggest to Sri Suryanarayana Rao to move his amendment.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I move—

“ that in clause 4 (1) for the words “ with death ” the words “ with transportation for life ” shall be substituted.”

These are offences mentioned in this clause, I am told, for which the punishment prescribed is transportation for life. My main objection to the provision of death sentence is that I am one of those who are against capital punishment. I drew the attention of the Government to this question by an interpellation and I was told the Government had decided not to abolish capital punishment.

“ My objection to death sentence, Sir, has been strengthened by a very plausible excuse given by the Hon’ble Minister Mr. Madhava Menon when he said that to prevent persons guilty of dacoity from making use of the spoils, the best method is to put him to death. I was surprised that such an argument should have been put forward by a member of Government. I noted down his remarks and followed his reasoning carefully because I was anxious to know why the Government thought of putting death as a punishment for all the sections and I find one of the plausible excuses given is to prevent persons guilty of dacoity from making use of the spoils or the looted property. That is not, I am sure, a serious argument to be put forward by the Government. Is not transportation for life sufficient punishment? Is not the tendency of all penal reforms is to enable a person guilty of crimes to repent at leisure and become a better man? Will not transportation for life enable him to do that? That is the main argument I urge in favour of my amendment. As I said, I am totally against capital punishment and even for murder in a large number of countries, death sentence has been abolished. Even in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Union of Socialist Soviet Republic, Rumania, Hungary and so many other countries, it is the same case. I thought now we have got independence and popular governments are functioning, they would see the absurdity of having capital punishment on the statute book. They may not sympathize wholly with the idea but they even seem to have out-Heroded Herod by providing death sentences even in respect of offences for which there is no such provision under the ordinary penal law. With these few words, I move my amendment.”

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—“ I second it.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ The second amendment is to clause 4 (2). Even for abetment, discretion is given to the court to punish the offender with death. Not only the actual offender who commits the offence but also those who attempt to commit or abet the commission of any offences punishable under sub-section (1) are to be liable to death sentences. There are more

23rd February 1948]

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

extenuating circumstances in the case of abettors and they deserve to be treated with more leniency than actual persons who commit offences. Therefore, I move—

“ that the words “ with death or ” shall be omitted.”

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—“ Sir, I rise to oppose the amendment of Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu. It was argued that capital punishment has been abolished in several other countries and there is no reason why it should remain in our statute book. Now it is absolutely necessary when we are dealing with a particular kind of situation that capital punishment should be there. It should not be forgotten that we are now legislating to deal with a disturbed area and to terrorize people not to commit offences it is quite essential such a provision should be there.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Sir, I have nothing to say to the remarks of Mr. Ranga Reddi. With regard to the contentions of other hon. Members I may tell them that we are now legislating not to meet any ordinary conditions of society. We are now legislating to meet a disturbed area, and it is with reference to that I said that provisions are necessary to prevent a person guilty of dacoity to make use of his spoils. The alternative punishment for death, namely, transportation for life, is already there in the penal code, in sections 307, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 376, 392, 394, 395, 397, 398 and 436. So that takes away the force of the argument of hon. Members opposite. Therefore Government do not accept the amendments proposed.”

Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao’s amendment was put and lost.

Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu’s amendment was put and lost.

Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao’s amendment to omit the words “ with death or ” in clause 4 (2) was put and lost.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 5.

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, I move—

“ that after the words “ Any magistrate ” in the first sentence the words “ having territorial jurisdiction and of the rank of a second-class magistrate ” shall be inserted.”

Sir, till now we have been discussing with a terrorizing section: and now we are discussing with assassination of persons in a state or martial law. Now I will read a quotation from the Riot Inquiry in Burma at page 229, which will show the danger of entrusting such wide powers to the police officers.

“ We observe that resort to powers of private defence must in law always be a hazardous proceeding for a simple police officer, particularly in defending property, because in our view, the mastery of section 103 of the Penal Code requires no inconsiderable power

[Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu] [23rd February 1948]

of memory and legal understanding. What we desire to make clear is that from these two sources are derived all the police officers' powers of using "force" in civil rioting.

"Now, Sir, the clause gives powers to the police officer to fire upon an assembly if in his opinion it is necessary so to do for restoring or maintaining public order. It is this which was done by General Dyer in Jallianwalla Bagh. In the course of inquiry he openly said that he opened fire not for dispersing the crowd but for teaching a lesson in the Punjab. That was his justification for his act. Now, in this measure you are doing a similar thing. You are permitting the police officer to open fire if it is necessary in his opinion to restore order. Clause 5 is the central provision of martial law. Five or more persons should not assemble. No person should carry with him any weapon and pass along the streets. Even if it be a stick it should not be carried, because it is capable of being used as a weapon. If such a thing is done the officer should give a warning and if it is not heeded he can open fire, and Government are not to question him for his conduct. In this connexion I will read to the House an extract from the Minority Report of the Punjab Disturbances Inquiry Committee, at page 186, which will show what will happen if martial law legislation is passed. General Dyer had issued a proclamation banning any procession or the holding of any assembly. After he received the information about the contemplated meeting he had four hours to think before he started to go to Jallianwalla, he took half an hour to reach there and he arrived there with his mind already made up as to the action he was going to take. His action was in accordance with a determined resolution that he had deliberately arrived at. It was no longer a question of dispersing the crowd but one of producing a sufficient moral effect, from a military point of view, not only on those who were present, but more especially throughout the Punjab. There could be no question of undue severity. It says:

Q.—'I gather generally from what you put in your report that your idea in taking this action was really to strike terror? That is what you say. It was no longer a question of dispersing the crowd but one of producing a sufficient moral effect.'

A.—'If they disobeyed my orders it showed that there was complete defiance of law, that there was something much more serious behind it than I imagined, that therefore these were rebels, and I must not treat them with gloves on. They had come to fight if they defied me, and I was going to give them a lesson.'

1-30 p.m. "Sir, this shows what will happen if this Bill were to be passed. So, Sir, I ask, is it not Dyerism that is sought to be repeated here? There is no use saying Bombay Government have done this and that Bengal Government have done this. The inspiration should come from ourselves. You are giving extraordinary powers to the police force and it may be used to-day against labour trouble, tomorrow against communal trouble, and who knows it may be used on the third day against the Justice party organization? Who knows the police officer may open fire not to enforce an order but what he thinks to be to create an atmosphere of peace. I ask: what is the

[23rd February 1948] [Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu]

object in giving power to shoot down a man when there is no mob at all. When there is no mob and when there is only a single person, cannot the armed police force overpower him and take him to the police station instead of shooting him to death? In times of war, I can understand such action against people who go near works of defence and communications, as it may be said that they may tamper with communications and so on. I am really surprised at the power to shoot down a man in a disturbed area to death. I do not think that the seriousness has been realized when the Bill was drafted, and it has been placed before this House merely for passing. The least that can be said is that there is absolutely no justification for our legally enacting Dyerism. There at least you have got a proclamation that five persons should not meet. Here there is no such thing. Section 127 of the Criminal Procedure Code says: 'for the purpose of dispersing a mob.' But here you can shoot not for the purpose of dispersing a mob, but for restoring or maintaining public order. Dyer said: 'I know that shooting without warning is disastrous. I did not want to warn, so that the people hereafter at least may not disobey the order.' Is it for that purpose, for the purpose of striking terror in the hearts of the people, that you want this power or is it for maintaining public order? I submit that it is not right for a civil Government to take such a power. In Burma there was trouble between Indians and Burmans, and riots took place. Did the Government of Burma pass an Act like this? This Bill is a negation of fundamental rights. You have taken away the liberty of the individual under the Public Safety Act. Not satisfied with that, you want to give power to an officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector to shoot a man to death. I say it would be disastrous. If a man walks in the street with a gun, can you not snatch it away from him instead of shooting him to death? Certainly I cannot be a party to passing a Bill of this kind. I hope the hon. Members of this House will see that at least in future a Bill of this kind is scrapped and not pushed through."

The House adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, it seems to me that we are under some misapprehension and are thinking of the old days when the British Bureaucracy was keeping us down. This Bill, Sir, has been brought forward by responsible Ministers to meet unforeseen circumstances and dangerous situations. We know the situation in northern India, the situation in Hyderabad and the situation created by the activities of the Rashtreeva Svavam Sevak and similar other organizations in our midst. My hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu is thinking of Dyers and O'Dwyers and the Jallianwallabagh massacres. Yes, Sir, it is true. Our country has been fighting the foreign bureaucracy all these days and has achieved freedom now. The foreign bureaucrats like Dyers and O'Dwyers are not responsible men to the people of this country.

[Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar] [23rd February 1948]

They are responsible to their masters in England, and they were carrying out the orders of their masters and hence those perpetrations

" Now, Sir, our Ministers are responsible men, who are responsible to this House and to our country. No doubt there is an apprehension in certain quarters that our police officers are not always responsible people and that they may misuse the powers entrusted to them. Even though some of them may not be responsible, and are likely to misuse the powers, yet our Ministers are responsible men and they will be responsible for the actions of the police. We must not also forget that the police of the present day is not the police of the bureaucratic days, although the personnel may be the same here and there, and they are expected to carry out the orders of our popular Government. So, they too may be expected to become more responsible and discharge the duties entrusted to them to the satisfaction of the public. That is the manner in which we have to view the police and their actions hereafter. If we go on finding out loopholes and always criticizing the Government, then nothing can be done in this country, and no order or safety can be evolved out of the chaos now existing in our midst.

" Sir, our friends of the Opposition must realize that they are also a part of the Government. They should not think that the Ministers are always their opponents. They may also hope to occupy the Treasury Benches one day or other, though not immediately, as my hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Farookhi Sahib threatened us this morning, at least after the Constituent Assembly has enacted the new Constitution for this country and fresh elections are held. Until that time, they will have to wait. If they succeed in the elections, they are, of course, bound to take office and then, I am sure, they will also have to pass legislation in the same manner as our present Ministers are doing, and they will also be liable to commit mistakes. To err is human, and our Ministers are also liable to commit mistakes, but they can be rectified at a future date, if they are found to be really mistakes. So, our present Opposition Members, who mostly happen to be nominated members, may hope to become elected members of this House one day and may become occupants of the Treasury Bench and exercise the powers of the Government. They must therefore realize that position and moderate their opposition and criticisms according to that sentiment.

" Sir, section 5 of the Bill is apprehended to be a very serious section and when occasion arises, it will have to be used. I see from the papers that the Hon. Home Minister has given an assurance in the other House that it will be only on the statute book, and that there will be no occasion to use it. I don't think so. If intriguing situations arise in the future, it will certainly have to be used. It would not be a dead letter in the statute book, when such occasion arises and with that consciousness, I support the clause."

[23rd February 1948]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :— Sir, in addition to seconding the amendment of Mr. B. Narayanaswami Naidu, I should also like to move my amendments to clause 5, which are as follows :—

- (1) In line 2, for the word ' his,' the word ' their ' shall be substituted.
- (2) In line 4, for the word ' such,' the word ' due ' shall be substituted.
- (3) In line 4, the words ' if any, as he may consider necessary ' shall be omitted.
- (4) In line 5, the words ' even to the causing of death ' shall be omitted.

" Sir, my first amendment is that the word ' their ' is to be substituted for the words ' his ' in line 2. The clause, as you notice, reads thus—' Any Magistrate, and Police officer not below the rank of Head Constable, may if, in his opinion, etc. ' I feel, Sir, that the words should be ' in their opinion ' and not ' in his opinion ', so that if both of them agree that to maintain public order, firing should be resorted to, they may jointly take the responsibility for issuing such order. I think that grammatically also my suggestion is correct. That is only a small amendment.

" Then the next amendment is one in which I have adopted the language that is given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons to the Bill as introduced in the Assembly, the following sentence occurs :—

' Magistrates and Police Officers, not below the rank of Head Constable, have also been empowered, after giving due warning, to fire upon or use force against persons contravening any law or order prohibiting unlawful assemblies or the carrying of arms '.

I have asked for the substitution of the word ' due ' for the word ' such ' occurring in the clause as it stands, and my amendment, if accepted, will be in consonance with what is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

" Then Sir, my third amendment is for the omission of the words, ' if any, as he may consider necessary. ' I feel that it is necessary, before an order for firing is given, that a warning should be given and it should not be left to the discretion of the officer to give such a warning or not. Sir, in this connexion, I would invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to the police orders where these words are already been used, namely, ' after giving full warning, etc. ' and I am only adopting that phraseology. My object is that he should give full warning and the discretion to give a warning or not, is not to be vested in the officer who is to issue orders for firing.

" Then Sir, my last amendment to clause 5 is in line 5, I want to omit the words " even to the causing of death ". I understand that policemen know no restriction as regards the effect on such firing and I therefore submit that it should not be laid down in the Act that ' firing even to the causing of death ' will be

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [23rd February 1948]

permitted. I cannot understand why the Government have felt it necessary to draw specific attention to this effect and made use of these words "even to the causing of death" in the Act. If firing is resorted to, it is but natural that death may be caused, and it is resorted to simply to scare away the crowd. I understand further, that no firing authority gives instruction to the policeman that he should shoot in a particular manner, not to cause death. So, Sir, my emphasising this fact, namely, 'the causing of death', you practically give the officer issuing the order to fire, a blank cheque, that he need not care for life and that he is at liberty to do whatever he likes, provided he achieves his purpose. After all, Sir, the purpose to be achieved is to disburse an unlawful assembly or to prevent an unlawful assembly from committing acts of arson, looting and burning of properties and so on. This purpose will be achieved, if the officer concerned is simply made to understand that he need not go to the extent of causing death, if it is possible for him to achieve this purpose otherwise. Why Government should have laid so much emphasis on these words, I cannot understand. I do not think these words are necessary for the purpose. They can be left out. In fact, Sir, I feel that the whole of clause 5 is unnecessary, because the Police Orders already contain complete instructions how and under what circumstances firing should be resorted to to disburse an unlawful assembly and almost all the police officers are aware of them. Unless it be that the Government are anxious, as my hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu pointed out, that any person who in a disturbed area is found to be acting in contravention of any law, even though he does not form an unlawful assembly, should be dealt with, as if he forms an unlawful assembly, there is no need for these words.

2-45
p.m. "I do not think that is the intention of the Government. The intention of the Government is to see that law and order is maintained, that no unlawful assembly commits acts of violence calculated to cause destruction of property or lives and to prevent persons from exercising rights which they would be entitled to exercise but for the prohibition of assembly or the use of weapons mentioned in this clause. However the sting of this section will be greatly removed if my small amendments are accepted. I am particularly anxious that the word 'due' should be inserted in the place of 'such' and that the words 'if any, as he may consider necessary' should be omitted. By doing so, we would legalise the present position as envisaged by the Police Manual, namely, 'after giving due warning to fire upon or otherwise use force', without giving any discretion to the authority issuing the firing order to give or not to give the warning. It is with this object that I have given notice of these amendments and I would request the Government to accept the amendments as I have used only the wording that they themselves have used in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. This is the sentence that occurs in the Statement of Objects and Reasons: 'Magistrate and Police Officers, not below the rank of . . . have also been empowered, after giving due warning . . .'. It is presumed from this that any magistrate or police officer who issues an order for firing can do so only after giving due warning. Evidently the Government have

23rd February 1948] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

rightly thought what their officer should do before he issues an order for firing. But somehow in the wording of the section these ideas have been lost sight of. With these words, Sir, I move my amendments."

SRI M. D. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I second the amendments, Sir."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—Sir, as I said in the beginning, while we are anxious to support the Government wherever possible in measures to maintain public order and safety in this Province—and that feeling is shared by every Member on this side of the House—we have to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that in blindly following some precedents in other provinces they are committing a very serious error. Sir, this piece of legislation, particularly clause 5, I should call a lawless law, worse than Martial law. Sir, let us visualise a situation which the Government might have to face. We might expect disturbances out of Communalism or Communism out of labour troubles or even out of disruptive forces that are now gathering on account of the agitation for linguistic provinces. Suppose on account of any of these causes there is a commotion in Madras and a rioting takes place, the Government might then have to put into operation this Act if this Bill is passed into law, as my friends expect that this Bill will be passed into law. Sir, I might take this opportunity to mention a matter which I have mentioned once or twice before. In all matters where the confidence in the Government is involved let all the Congress Members of this House be behind the Government and vote for the Government measures. But in very serious measures like this why should not they have the freedom of voting? I am sure that if only Members on the other side of the House and on this side, who belong to the Congress Party, are only given the freedom to vote on this Bill in accordance with their conscience, then surely this Bill would never be passed. It might not have passed the Assembly and I am quite sure that this will not pass this Council. But I have seen that many Members on the other side supporting the Government, have spoken against this Bill, particularly clause 5, but when the voting comes they are governed by discipline and they have to vote for it. I say that it is but proper for a Government having such a huge majority behind them to see that ordinarily measures are brought before the House and left to the free will vote of the Congress Members and not to the vote as ordered by the Party. If that were so, it would also save their conscience and at times it will also save the public. In this matter it would have saved the public because the Government do not know their own mind. They are only concerned with following precedents. People creating commotion among communities are also following precedents. They also say, in the West Punjab it so happened, in the East Punjab it so happened and in Delhi it so happened. Let it happen here also. They have got precedent for it. People who have to frame legislation, also follow precedents. Many of our best men, including my hon. Friends sitting on the other side of the House have been put into jail by applying legislation passed by a foreign

[Dr. V. K. John] [23rd February 1948]

Government. We have precedents for everything. Sir, the Government have no mind of their own. The Government should not go on precedent but on merits and apply their minds. I hope the Hon. Minister when replying to the debate will not rely so much on precedents as on the merits of this case. If only the Government had made a provision in clause 5 that the officers who would be authorized by the Government from time to time would be entitled to open fire it would have been a great thing. Now, Sir, the executive Government cannot overrule the enactment. This Bill if passed into law would at once invest every Police Inspector in an area declared to be a disturbed area with the power to shoot down anybody who in his opinion ought to be shot down. Why should we give such a power to a Police Inspector? Why should not the Government reserve the power to entrust certain officers whom they know to be incorruptible and are not corrupt and who, they know, will act wisely within their disturbed area, with the power to shoot. As it is they give every Sub-Inspector the power to order shooting. Sir, I am not one of those who criticise the Police unnecessarily; but surely there are Sub-Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and at least one per cent of them may be persons who might have some spite and who might order firing so that the shot might go into the body of a person or persons whom, on account of their spite, they may not like. Sir, the Government are depriving themselves of their power by asking the Legislature to give the power to the Police Inspector. I want the Hon. Minister to understand the position. I should have been very satisfied if this Government took the power to empower certain named officials in a disturbed area to exercise this power which I say is far beyond even the powers under a martial law regime. Instead of doing that the Government are giving away their power and we are asked to pass a legislation to give that uncontrolled power to a Sub-Inspector. I say 'uncontrolled' because the word used is: 'as he may consider necessary.' Therefore the only control on a Sub-Inspector is himself. 'His own consideration' is his guide. Nobody else can control him. The Hon. the Minister while speaking before said: 'We do not understand the purport of (the amendment to) clause 5 as the order has first to be passed prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons or the carrying of weapons.' It is elementary and the Hon. the Minister must know that it is elementary that in a disturbed area the first thing to be done is for the Magistrate to pass an order prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons and the carrying of weapons. That order will automatically come in as soon as you declare an area to be a disturbed area. Therefore, to wax eloquent and make it a very big condition for a Sub-Inspector to order shooting is I venture to submit of no consequence whatever. If you visualize, what will happen is that, when Madras is declared to be a disturbed area, then an order will be passed prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons and prohibiting the carrying of weapons. All that will come in quick succession. Then what is the position? Every magistrate is allowed to exercise his judgment. It may be said that a Magistrate by his training is in a position to exercise judgment which is detached and in exercising

23rd February 1948]

[Dr. V. K. John]

his judgment he may order shooting. But the Bill does not stop there. The Bill does not say that such officers whom the Government may empower from time to time might also have the power to order shooting. But it extends the power of ordering shooting to every Sub-Inspector. I say that the Government are depriving themselves by introducing this Bill and asking the majority behind them to pass it, of a power which they could very well have reserved in their own hands and not invested it in the hand of every Sub-Inspector in a disturbed area to use it as he pleases. They could have at least said that such and such Sub-Inspectors would have the power. Now that they give the power to every Sub-Inspector what would happen, when there is a disturbance out of communal tension. I am hoping that it will not happen in our Presidency and we may not have to follow precedents from other Provinces where there is communal rioting going on. Now, Sir, if there is a communal riot, you have armed every Sub-Inspector, Muslims, Hindus and people of other communities also, with the power to order shooting, and there is no control over them, except his own judgment and his own desire, the Muslim Sub-Inspector will shoot a Hindu Sub-Inspector because in his opinion the Hindu Sub-Inspector is a person whom he considers is a person should be fired upon, because it is a communal rioting. Sir, I am not exaggerating. We have heard that in the Northern India, in the West Punjab, in the East Punjab and other places Government servants took sides with the mobs. Therefore to give this power to Sub-Inspectors and to every Sub-Inspector in a disturbed area is to ask each Sub-Inspector to shoot the Magistrate or Sub-Inspector belonging to a community other than his own.

"This is a thoughtless legislation, and this is going to be passed. Hereafter, some other province can say that Madras is a sane Province, and Madras has passed this legislation. Let us not give any precedent. A Government, in my opinion, ought to reserve power to themselves and ought not to deprive themselves of the power to name the persons who can order the shooting down of men. This is my point. Government do not want to reserve that power to name the persons within a disturbed area who will be entrusted with this power over life and death, but they leave the matter to the Sub-Inspector of Police to decide solely on his own judgment. Sir, he may even disobey a Magistrate, if he is a clever man, and say 'if I consider it necessary I can shoot down a man'. He may say, 'if I consider it necessary, I can shoot down a man who carries a weapon with him'. Government are, without any consideration, without any judgment, and without any forethought, depriving themselves of the power and are investing this power to shoot down men on Sub-Inspectors of Police. I was quite surprised to see that a member of the Government should get up and say that after the 15th August 1947, every Sub-Inspector has been changed over to the standard of an Angel, and that he will never shoot a man unnecessarily. I ask why give away that power? Why should I and my hon. Friends be asked to be a party to a legislation by which Government deprive themselves of the power to shoot

[Dr. V. K. John]

[23rd February 1948]

down men, and allow every Sub-Inspector of Police to shoot any person, 'if in his opinion it is necessary so to do.' It is possible that another Sub-Inspector of Police walks into a disturbed area and orders the opening of fire there, because it is not stated that only the Sub-Inspector of Police or the Magistrate who has jurisdiction over the disturbed area can order the shooting. Sir, this is a thoughtless and lawless legislation introduced in this House, and we are asked to be a party to the investing a Sub-Inspector of Police the power to shoot down people, when he considers it necessary to do so. I oppose with all the strength at my command this investing of power on a Police Sub-Inspector. I, therefore, Sir, move an amendment which stands in my name, that is, in Clause 5 the words 'and any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector' shall be omitted. In moving this amendment, I again repeat my suggestion that Government have forgotten to reserve power to themselves. When the legislature gives power to a Police Sub-Inspector, Government cannot afterwards deprive him of that power. Let them know that, because the Legislature in a democratic form of Government is supreme. When the Legislature gives that power, even Government cannot say 'you shall not exercise that power', because the enactment passed by the Legislature should be obeyed even by Government. Therefore, Sir, I am making a suggestion to the Government to omit these words, and reserve the power to empower certain specified officers to order the opening of fire. They may be Magistrates, Inspectors, or Tahsildars, or anybody, whom Government can get hold of in a disturbed area. Why should not Government do that? First, they have to declare an area as a disturbed area. Then orders will be passed prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons or the carrying of weapon, etc.. Why cannot that Government simultaneously say that the persons named in the order have been empowered to open fire? After all the Government know the senior officers in the locality, their precedents and their abilities. We can trust a popular Government. I can trust my Hon. Ministers on the other side. What I say is they are depriving themselves of this power, and invest it on a Police Sub-Inspector to decide on the life or death of his fellow subjects. Sir, as everybody knows, in communal riots, a Police Sub-Inspector, if he is a Hindu, will be on the Hindu side, and if he be a Muslim, he will be on the Muslim side. Therefore, envisaging the circumstances which might arise in a disturbed area, let us not pass any enactment under which unlimited powers are vested on Sub-Inspectors of Police to shoot down people. Sir, I do not think the members of the Government have ever thought over the fact that a Sub-Inspector of Police can tell Government 'I would not obey your order; you cannot go against me'. Do Government realise that they are depriving themselves of power? Sir, when we criticise Government in this matter, we are not criticising them with a view either to oppose Government for opposition's sake or to discredit the Government. We are criticising them only in their own interests and in public interests. I hope Government will at least consider bringing in an amending Bill, if they want to have this

23rd February 1948] [Dr. V. K. John]

Bill passed now, because it has already been passed by the Assembly—whereby they can reserve the power to themselves to name the officers who will be invested with the powers of deciding the life or death of the members of the public."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—I second the amendment, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—“ Sir, I oppose the amendments. These amendments can be divided into two classes, one relating to grammar and the other relating to merits. With regard to the amendment relating to grammar, I wish to say this. In Clause 5, it is said 'any magistrate, and any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector, may if, in his opinion, it is necessary so to do . . .'. The objection is that the word 'his' cannot stand. I say it would certainly be better if the words 'any Magistrate or any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector may if, in his opinion, it is necessary so to do . . .'. have been put. (Dr. V. K. John : why not 'and/or'?) Instead of 'and' you may have 'or'. But, as it stands, it cannot be said to be wrong, because if you read it in the following manner, it will be clear what the object of the Legislature is. By using the word 'his', the Legislature means a Magistrate's order or a police officer's order and not a combined order of the Magistrate and police officer. If it is stated 'any Magistrate, if, in his opinion, it is necessary so to do' and 'any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector if, in his opinion, etc.', it will be good grammar. Combining the two, the sentence may run as 'any Magistrate and any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector may if, in his opinion, it is necessary so to do for restoring or maintaining public order . . .'. Then, it only means that it is an order by a Magistrate or by a police officer. There is nothing wrong in allowing this 'his' to stand. (Dr. V. K. John : 'That is a different opinion.') It is not stated anywhere that it will be a combined order. Therefore, the word 'their' need not be substituted for 'his'.

“ Then, Sir, about the amendment to substitute the word 'due' for 'such' and the amendment to delete the words 'if any, as he may consider necessary'. The substantial point made out here is that under no circumstances shall a Magistrate or a police officer be given any power to order the opening of fire unless he gives a warning, that is, a warning must always be given, and then only the order to open fire can be given. This is the substance of the amendments, Sir. There may be cases, Sir, in which there may not be much time—or it may even be inopportune—to give any warning. It may be that order to open fire has to be given immediately to avoid some serious calamity. Under such circumstances, a police officer must have the discretion to order the opening of fire without giving any warning. It may not be always possible to give a warning. Therefore, it is that the words 'such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary' are introduced in the Bill. But in considering the amendment, we

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [23rd February 1948]

have to look into the background. The Government, before declaring an area as a disturbed area, is expected to weigh well the circumstances and then only declare it as a disturbed area. Cabinet Ministers will not simply say an area is a disturbed area. There will be reasons for it. They will certainly consider them. We will have to rely upon Government. When they declare an area to be a disturbed area, we must assume that there are good reasons for declaring so. One member asked how can you define a disturbed area. You can never define a disturbed area. Disturbances are not ordinary events. Government will review the condition in an area and when they say that it is a disturbed area, it follows they have considered the matter well. But in times like this, I say it is necessary that there should be a legislation like this. In a disturbed area, a single individual can create any amount of disturbance, keeping behind the other persons. That person will have to be dealt with immediately if the other persons behind the scene are to be brought to book. To provide for all those contingencies, it is provided 'after giving such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary'. This will cover all the cases I have mentioned.

"Then, Sir, about the amendment to omit the word 'such' and substitute 'due', in its place. The words are 'after giving such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary'. That is to say, he will weigh all the circumstances and come to a decision whether any warning is to be given and if so, what sort of warning. That constitutes 'due' warning. If the word 'due' should mean anything else for instance so much time, it will not be possible for any officer, however high he may be, in a disturbed area to come to a conclusion what is meant by the word 'due'. Whatever warning he considers necessary he will give. It may be in some cases he gives no warning at all. Therefore it is said 'after giving such warning, if any, as he may consider necessary'. I see no harm in allowing the word 'such' to stand.

3-15 p.m. "Then, Sir, another amendment is to omit the words 'even to the causing of death.' I am surprised to hear the argument that a police officer must always shoot so that death may not be caused. It is very difficult and it is almost impossible, because if a man is fired upon, it may hit him in the leg or it may hit on the head. If it hits in the leg, he may not die; but if it hits on his head, he may die. Therefore, if those words are omitted, then the police officer may not fire at all. He may hesitate to fire or probably will not fire because if it causes death, he may get some punishment. Therefore, the argument that the Police officer may open fire but should not cause death is not imaginable. So, the words as contained in the Bill, viz., fire upon, or otherwise use force, even to the causing of death are used. Everything is there. The police officer may use sufficient force so that the offender may not be killed at once; he may fire upon him but need not necessarily kill him and the last stage that he may fire upon him or use force even to the causing of death. All these gradations are there and therefore, I oppose the amendments."

23rd February 1948]

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Did the hon. Member draft this clause?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"Then, Sir, the clause says: 'against any person who is in a disturbed area in acting in contravention of any law or order for the time being in force in such area prohibiting the assembly of five or more persons or the carrying of weapons or of things capable of being used as weapons.' I may submit to the House that these things need not all be there. But I may also state that I agree with the opinions expressed by the Opposition members that the Government should be very careful in using this provision, I am sure a popular Government will always be careful. They are not here to put many persons to death. They are here to save many persons. In saving many persons, they may probably kill one or two. To save many even by causing death to a few is the maximum which will always be followed. One may be killed so that many may be saved. That is also the maxim contained in our Puranas. Therefore, there is nothing bad about the provision in this Bill.

"Then, with regard to one or two objections that better phraseology and that better grammar could be used. I see nothing ungrammatical in this Bill to which objection can be taken.

"Then, Sir, it is said by Dr. V. K. John that this is a lawless law. I am against that phrase. Though we are in a position to use any phrase against a Bill, we cannot call this a lawless law. I do not know why my hon. Friend is so much opposed to Sub-Inspectors being given this power. The Sub-Inspectors have hearts and they have feelings and they are members of this democracy and they are the subordinate executive officers of the Government. So, if any Sub-Inspector is found to be at fault, Government will know that such and such a Sub-Inspector is at fault and steps will taken to remove him from the place of disturbance and certainly another Sub-Inspector will be appointed in his place."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Sub-inspector may walk to the place and shoot even though he may not have jurisdiction. That is what the Bill provides."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"That I think is not correct. The Sub-Inspector in Madras is not a Sub-Inspector in Malabar. According to the order of appointment given to him, he has got jurisdiction only in Madras and not outside. Again, the Sub-Inspector is also a human being, like any one of us and he will not shoot anybody, anywhere and under any circumstances. If that is so, then this is a lawless law. But that is not the meaning or the intention of this Bill. A Sub-Inspector is not a Sub-Inspector except in his jurisdiction. A Judge of the Madras High Court is not a Judge of the Bombay Presidency or of the Central Provinces. Similarly, a Sub-Inspector is a Sub-Inspector only in the place where he has jurisdiction. That is my interpretation and that is the proper and correct interpretation. With these words, I oppose the amendments."

[23rd February 1948]

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I am very sorry that certain matters have been brought into the discussion of this Bill which I wish had not been brought in at all. It is just like the proverb which says : ' Give a dog a bad name and hang it.' My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, brought in Mr. Dyer's name. All the reports about Mr. Dyer and particularly the enquiry was read. I am very sorry that Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu should have stated that.

" Sir, Mr. Dyer fired upon people who assembled in a place for prayer and not for committing any arson, rape or such other things. Those people were assembled for prayer and those unarmed people were shot by that man mercilessly. I am sorry, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu should have brought in the analogy of that man and the cheek of that man should be glorified as courage and conviction. I am sorry we have come to that stage. He has said it cheekily that he shot with the idea of teaching a lesson. I am sorry we have come to that stage."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Suppose a Sub-Inspector says that he has got the power to open fire and so, shoots any person saying that it is for the purpose of restoring order, is he right or not? "

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" It is an inconvenient question."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not an inconvenient question and Dr. John need not come to my rescue and I feel Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu is as much capable of looking at things for himself as Mr. John. So, let us see the position. Even Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, a lawyer as he is, has forgotten that the ordinary law which is on the statute book is not sufficient to meet the situation. The argument of Sri Suryanarayana Rao is a bit inconsistent. He said that the police rules and orders give sufficient powers to deal with emergencies. If the police rules and orders give such enormous powers, I cannot understand why such powers cannot be taken under this legislation. I cannot also understand his saying that the police orders give all those powers contained in this Bill.

" Then, in clause, 5, Sri Narayanaswami Nayudu wants to omit the words ' or the carrying of weapons or things capable of being used as weapon.' I am asking Sri Narayanaswami Nayudu that if a person is going in a disturbed area and if another person is going behind him with a penknife and if a Sub-Inspector finds it out from a distance, cannot he prevent the man using the penknife or other weapon so that the first person may not be injured? I may state that section 100 of the Indian Penal Code provides for this. I have got the right to kill another person if I find that person going to rape or cause grievous injury to another person. Even the ordinary law provides this for saving innocent persons. When such is the case, it is all the more necessary that these powers should be specifically given in a ' disturbed area ' where such offences are likely to be much more organized. We cannot imagine a Sub-Inspector taking into his head to shoot any

[23rd February 1948] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

individual going behind any person without any cause. It is not at all the intention. What is provided for is that a person is prohibited from carrying arms in a particular place and if he does so in contravention of the provision, then he may even be shot. No Sub-Inspector or Magistrate is foolish enough to shoot at any man without any cause. If he does so improperly, then certainly Government will take action on the executive. This power is only granted to prevent the commission of such offences. Even under the ordinary law, not only the police officers but even the private individuals have been given power to kill a person in certain circumstances. Those circumstances, in a disturbed area, will be much more exaggerated because there will be organized disturbances. If my hon. Friends had only heard the sort of stories how people suffered in the disturbed areas—God forbid such conditions arising in our Province then it is absolutely necessary that we should have these provisions ready, and these powers cannot be compared, by any stretch of imagination, with the shooting of unarmed people assembled for a prayer. It is rather unfortunate that Sri Narayanaswami Nayudu should have referred to it.

" Sir, taking the amendments one by one, first of all, Sri Narayanaswami Nayudu moved an amendment to clause 5, viz., to omit the words, ' or the carrying of weapons or things capable of being used as weapons.' If those words, are removed, then there is no necessity for this Bill, because it is the very thing that we want to prevent. Carrying of arms would enable a person to do mischief in ' a disturbed area '. That is why the Government have come to the conclusion that they should not allow any carrying of arms in a disturbed area. Perhaps the Government may declare an area as ' a disturbed area ' after taking the advice of High Court Judges. But, unless this power is taken to prevent persons carrying arms in a disturbed area, it will not be possible to prevent greater disturbances taking place. You can do lesser harm to save the greater harm being done. That is only what is contemplated in this Bill. When we deal with a disturbed area, it means that we are dealing with an atmosphere where there is considerable excitement, where people are likely to go out of their balance. It is only in such cases, these provisions can be used and will be used. The primary need is to declare an area to be a ' disturbed area '. That is the most important thing in this matter. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has not moved his other amendments and therefore, I need not unnecessarily go into them and worry about them. I may say that there is no incongruity in drafting.

" Sir, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao wanted that instead of the words ' such warning ' in clause 5, the words ' due warning ' should be used and also the words ' if any, as he may consider necessary ' to be omitted. I am sorry, this is also overlooking the conditions in which a thing has to be done. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao swore by the Police Orders and Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu swore by the Criminal Procedure Code. I may at once

[Sri K. Madhava Menon] [23rd February 1948]

point out that sections 127 and 128 of the Criminal Procedure Code contemplate normal conditions. They do not contemplate abnormal conditions. Under normal conditions, if a situation arises where an assembly of persons becomes riotous, the magistrate can declare it as an unlawful assembly, and the policemen can use sufficient force to disperse that assembly, even to the extent of causing death. When it is so even in normal conditions, I cannot understand why under abnormal conditions when an area has been disturbed, when excited people begin to commit, loot, arson and rape, such powers should not be taken. Moreover, when normal conditions prevail, there is enough time for a magistrate to use his powers but in abnormal conditions, that is not so and therefore, this power is being given.

3.30 P.M. "If it is possible, he should give a warning in sufficient time. Sections 127 and 128 insists that he should give a warning. It contemplates normal conditions, but in abnormal conditions there will not be time or opportunity to give a warning. If half a dozen policemen see a mob of 2,000 men committing an offence, they should act promptly. It would be impossible to give a warning and sometimes if a warning is given, the mischief could not be stopped. The words "if any" have been advisedly used. If it is possible to give a warning, a warning should be given. If it is necessary to act without giving a warning, the police should do so. There is nothing wrong about it and the words 'if any' should remain.

"Then Sir, I come to Dr. John's amendment for the omission of the words 'and any police officer not below the rank of sub-inspector'. Dr. John wants to have a magistrate even if it is an honorary magistrate. Dr. John imagines that the police sub-inspector is a dangerous person. I am glad that Dr. John has absolute confidence in the Government and is willing to have the power vested in us so that we may give that power to any officer we choose. Sir, we declare a particular area as a disturbed area and the sub-inspector in charge of that area is nominated as the officer to exercise these powers. My hon. Friend's imagination is running riot when he says that when once the police officer is invested with such powers we would have no control over him. The police officer will not run riot if the Bill is passed by the legislature. The police officer on the spot is to be given sufficient powers. There is no ground for the fear that the police officer of the neighbouring area will do the same thing. He has no jurisdiction to do it and if he acts without jurisdiction, action will be taken against him. Under the circumstances let us not confuse ideas, let us not be taken as people who cannot understand things. I am sorry to say that an attempt has been made to confuse things and made it appear that what is being done is to give the police such powers as General Dyer had at Jallianwallah Bagh. That is not the correct position and the correct attitude. I oppose the amendments, Sir."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"Sir, The Criminal Procedure Code gives power to disperse a mob but what General Dyer had was the power to restore order. General Dyer said: 'I did fire not for the purpose of dispersing the mob, but for the

23rd February 1948] [Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu]

purpose of terrorising the country and restoring order.' Similarly suppose the sub-Inspector says to-morrow: 'Yes, I did fire on the mob. If I had asked them to disperse they would have dispersed. But I fired on them because I wanted to restore order in the country. If I did not fire, order would not have been restored.' Under those circumstances, is he protected or not?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"He is not protected."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"There is a great difference between 'for the purpose of dispersing a mob' and 'for the purpose of maintaining order'. General Dyer said: 'I did order fire for the purpose of striking terror in the Punjab and he was protected. Even now, I am repeating that both the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon and Mr. Narayana Menon did not raise this point at all. I wish they answered the question whether it is legally justifiable for a sub-inspector to shoot a person not for the purpose of dispersing a crowd but for the purpose of restoring order and striking terror in the country. That is the mischief of the whole section. The final report of the Riot Enquiry Committee has definitely stated that the words "for the purpose of dispersing a mob" should be used. It is not a question of mere words and I am not trying to confuse the thing. I will only say that the Hon. Minister is trying to confuse the thing. If a sub-inspector says that he fired upon a person not for the purpose of dispersing a mob but for the purpose of maintaining order, the Government may dismiss him, but he cannot be prosecuted and he is not in law responsible for the acts done by him."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I think, I have answered the question raised by my hon. Friend. My hon. Friend asked whether a sub-inspector who shoots for restoring or maintaining order is protected. I say he is perfectly protected. But if a sub-inspector shoots for the purpose of striking terror or teaching a lesson, then he is not protected. That is all the difference between what General Dyer did and what the sub-inspector might do under certain circumstances, the very wording of the section shows that if a sub-inspector shoots for the purpose of maintaining order or restoring order, if it is necessary to do so, then he is protected. That is my answer. He is definitely protected. But if like General Dyer he shoots in order to strike terror or teach a lesson he is not protected and he should never be protected. That is my answer, Sir."

The amendment of Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, the amendments of Mr. Survanarayana Rao and the amendment of Dr. John were put to the House one after another and lost.

Clause 5 was put to the House and declared carried. Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu demanded a poll and the House divided.

(The division bell was rung.)

[23rd February 1948]

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the matter be left to the free vote of the House, or will there be a party whip? "

AN HON. MEMBER :—" Every vote is a free vote."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" It is none of the business of Dr. John. It is a matter for our conscience. (Inter-ruption.) We have all consulted our conscience."

Ayes.

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon. | 12 Sri M. Sudarsanam. |
| 2 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 13 .. N. Ramabhadra Raju. |
| 3 Sri L. Subbarama Reddi. | 14 .. T. Parusbotham. |
| 4 .. B. Bhima Rao. | 15 .. K. Natarajan. |
| 5 .. M. Narayana Menon. | 16 .. S. Jayaram Reddiar. |
| 6 .. N. Venkatachalamaj. | 17 .. M. K. Sundarama Iyer. |
| 7 .. N. Sankara Reddi. | 18 .. C. Perumalswami Reddiyar. |
| 8 .. M. Narayana Rao. | 19 .. N. Ranga Redd. |
| 9 .. S. K. Satagopa Mudaliyar. | 20 Mr. A. P. F. Rodriguez. |
| 10 Dr. U. Rama Rao. | 21 Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao. |
| 11 Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 22 .. P. R. K. Sarma. |

Noes.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. | 5 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. |
| 2 Mrs. M. N. Chubwala. | 6 Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudali- |
| 3 .. M. Hensman. | 7 .. |
| 4 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudali- | 8 K. Uppi Saib Bahadur. |
| lyar. | 9 Dr. V. K. John. |

Ayes 22, Noes 8.

Clause 5 was carried.

Clause 6.

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I move the following amendment :—

In clause 6 after the words " in respect of anything " and before the words " done or purporting to be done ", the words " in good faith " shall be inserted.

3-45 P.M. I do not wish to make a long speech in moving my amendment. In view of the very wide and arbitrary powers conferred by clause 5, I think it would be a check on those on whom these powers are conferred, if the legislature provided that they will be protected only if they act in good faith. The words ' in good faith ' occurring in legislations similar to this, are conspicuous by their absence from clause 6. Clause 6 should read as follows :—

' No prosecution, suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government against any person in respect of anything in good faith done or purporting to be done in exercise of the powers conferred by section 5.'

" I do not know why the Government do not want to at least curb these very extraordinary and arbitrary powers given to officers including police inspectors by adding the words ' in good faith.' "

23rd February 1948] [Dr. V. K. John]

Is it their intention that, if any person does something mala fide and not in good faith, he should be supported and protected? Is the Government objecting to the provision that it should protect only persons who in good faith shoot or order shooting of other persons? The Government should have introduced the words ' in good faith ' which are always used in legislations like this. It might be that the Government's draftsman forgot such a provision; or he might have copied from Bills passed by other provinces; he might have thought that there were precedents. Perhaps it is a question of prestige or the Government's attention was not directed to it, when the Bill was passed by the Assembly. The Bill is before the Council. I am positive that as day follows night and night follows day, the Hon. Minister will oppose this amendment also, in spite of the fact that the omission of the words may be due to an oversight or bad judgment and not on merits.

" I am equally sure that my amendment will not be carried. The provisions of this Bill are not left to the free voting of this House. There is voting by parties. I repeat this fact because my hon. Friend, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar got upon his feet and protested against my remark which I made previously. I did make that remark; I made it deliberately, I made it intentionally, because I heard a few Members on the Congress side speaking against the provisions of clause 5 of this Bill. After they have spoken against a provision in the Bill, it should follow in the ordinary and natural course of events, that their conscience should ask them not to support clause 5 of the Bill. Therefore I thought it was party discipline which is in force not only here but in other places also that makes a member vote against his own opinion. I deliberately made the remark that every Bill which does not involve the question of confidence in the Government, should be left to the open criticism and open vote of members to whatever party the members were affiliated. Independent members have got this very great advantage. I myself would have voted one way when some of my friends would have voted in the other way. They can keep their conscience; they can vote in the way their conscience dictates. The question may be asked why I have brought forward this amendment when I know previously what would be the attitude of the Hon. Minister and how he would get up on his feet and say that he opposes this amendment. I think that it is my responsibility and duty as a lawyer member of this House, to point out such omissions. I think the omission of the words I have referred to in clause 6 is a very serious omission. The words ' in good faith ' would be a check on the action of the officer, in bad faith or *mala fide*, on whom very wide powers of life and death without control, are conferred."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, a police officer may shoot a person not for the purpose of restoring order but for striking terror. I do not want to repeat my arguments. A police officer may shoot a person not because the latter committed any offence, but because the former wants to prevent other persons from committing serious offences. In such a case, is the officer to

164 THE MADRAS SUPPRESSION OF DISTURBANCES BILL, 1947

[Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu] [23rd February 1948]

be protected? He should have acted in good faith. If he acted in bad faith, he is liable to be prosecuted. The words 'in good faith' do not find a place in this clause. A police officer can shoot a man in the street if the latter was going to shoot another person, but not because he is in a disturbed area. Is he justified in doing so? That is the point I want to ask."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I do not want to join issue with my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu and go over the same ground. If he will read clause 6 in the way in which I read it and others should read it, there is no room for any doubt in the matter. It is not every officer, but only that officer who does anything in pursuance of this Bill is protected, though the words 'in good faith' are not in the clause. The man who is protected is only that person who does anything or purports to do anything in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 5. What are the powers that are conferred under section 5. For the purpose of restoring or maintaining public order in a disturbed area, an officer is entitled to use force even to the extent of shooting a person. Nobody else is protected other than the person—the point is specific—who is doing anything for restoring or maintaining public order, or who purports to do so. Only those persons who are permitted to exercise the powers conferred under section 5 are protected. If a person, out of his whims and fancies, shoots another person not in exercise of the powers conferred on him, he is liable to be prosecuted under the Criminal Law Act. The words 'in good faith' are not necessary. Dr. John has not shown any law in which these words are not inserted. I challenged him if these words are in a similar legislation dealing with unusual conditions. I referred him to the normal procedure of the Criminal Procedure Code—section 132. The words 'in good faith' are not there. No prosecution against any person acting under that section can be instituted in a criminal court except with the sanction of the Provincial Government. Only certain classes of officers are protected, not all officers. Certain officers cannot be prosecuted except with the sanction of the Central Government. These words are not there also. These words need not be inserted in section 6. Therefore this amendment I cannot accept."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I want to say only one word in reply. The Hon. Minister said that the person should do anything only for the purpose of maintaining or restoring public order under clause 5. That clause says that any officer may, if in his opinion it is necessary so to do for restoring or maintaining public order, order fire to be opened. The Hon. Minister has omitted to notice the words 'in his opinion'. According to clause 5, everything is left to the judgment of the officer. His judgment may be wrong and may not be bona fide. The officer exercising the judgment may be *mala fide*. We are giving him large powers under clause 5. We must make it difficult for him to use his wrong judgment, by having the words 'in good faith' in the clause. We are leaving everything to his discretion. That is the point I urge. The Hon. Minister has not read the words 'if in his opinion it is necessary'

23rd February 1948] [Dr. V. K. John]

in clause 5. The officer may form his opinion either rightly or wrongly. If his actions are *mala fide*, he ought not to be protected. The words 'in good faith' should be inserted in clause 6. I am quite sure that there cannot be any difference of opinion on this point. This Bill has been drafted by copying the provisions of similar Bills passed by some other provinces. Perhaps the draftsman was ignorant on this point. He is responsible for the mistake. He has repeated the clause in the Bills passed by other provinces. This Bill has been passed by the Assembly. Arbitrary powers have been conferred on officials to take the lives of men and women. We must tell them that they will not be protected unless they took action in good faith. I say that this amendment ought to be accepted by the Government. It is merely prestige that stands in the way of this amendment being accepted."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not 4 p.m. a question of prestige. I shall certainly not subject a police officer or any officer purporting to act under section 5 to the malice or to the private grudge or the imaginary grievance of any individual when he acts in certain circumstances. I oppose the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 6 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I move that the Bill be passed into law. Even though the Home Minister is not present here, I shall certainly faithfully inform him of the discussions that have taken place here and the discussions of the report he will certainly read. There is no doubt about it. I can certainly say that the Home Member and Government will take the greatest possible care in using this Act for which no necessity may arise. Bearing in mind particularly the very good advice that has been tendered to us in the spirit in which it is given, I request, Sir, that the Bill be passed into law."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I have only a word to say. I was very pleased to hear the Hon. Minister Mr. Madhava Menon say that there has been a complete change in the outlook of the police since August 15. I wish it were true and I wish it were true again that such a miracle has happened at least after the 30th January. I can only pity the pathetic belief the Treasury Benches seem to have in the police in handing over to them powers which they have in the past often abused and I am sure some are going to abuse them in the future also, if we remember the days of 1942 and the previous occasions, when the police used even their limited powers against those who are sitting on the Treasury Benches and those behind them. Knowing that, should not some method be found to control the police officers to whom the Government are handing over so many powers? And the object of the members on this side, is to draw pointed attention

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [23rd February 1948]

to the fact that in the past such powers have not always been rightly exercised. Please see when you give them these powers, you put sufficient restraint on them holding them responsible if they abuse. That is all the spirit in which Dr. John moved for the insertion of the words 'in good faith'. My friends being in power seem to forget the past altogether. I wish, as I said, a miracle has really happened. I claim many police officers among my friends and I know there are good and bad amongst them. We want same restraint to be placed on them lest the good may become bad when invested with such uncontrolled powers. If the Government want powers, let them exercise. We are perfectly willing to invest them to maintain peace and order and to that end let them take all the powers they need. But when they delegate their powers, let them see that those powers are delegated to proper persons and they are properly exercised. How is it possible for the Hon. Minister sitting in the Fort St. George to find out whether a particular Inspector for instance in Kaikalur in Kistna district which has been, let us take it, declared as disturbed area, has used his power to fire upon even an individual or a crowd properly? How is it possible to find it out? It is very difficult. That is why we wanted they should be liable to prosecution or proceedings for improper use of powers a right which is exercised in all parts of the civilised world by ordinary citizens and which is being deprived now. May I ask the Government at least whether they would order a public enquiry whenever shooting is restored to by the police. Let them give an undertaking that whenever firing is resorted to by the police, Government will hold a departmental or public enquiry into the conduct of those officers concerned and if they found that they are really guilty of the abuse of power, they would take action. Let them give us that assurance. That is all what we wanted. This assurance, any popular Government must be prepared to give. We have every faith in the Government. Yet we want that the powers which they are giving to their police officers should be properly utilized for the real purpose for which this enactment is pushed through this Council. I hope the Hon. Minister Mr. Madhava Menon will convey our wishes to the Hon. Home Minister that whenever firing is resorted to and if there is a complaint that it has been resorted to without proper provocation, that the Government would order an enquiry either departmental—of course we know the fate of departmental enquiries—but still some enquiry so that people may be satisfied that the powers vested in the police officers have been properly used and if abused they will be dealt with severely."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I strongly support the suggestion made by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao that the Government now can give an undertaking that in any case where a firing had been opened, there would be an enquiry even departmental enquiry so that the police officers may from now know that there is some restraint, there is also some enquiry and therefore there may be restraint in any action which they may take under the Act,

23rd February 1948] [Dr. V. K. John]

I express the hope that this Act will not be put into force and there will be no occasion for it. The members of the Government who are popular Ministers and also members of this House and the Lower House and who are leaders of public opinion and also other leaders of communities and political parties must make a very serious endeavour, now that we are passing this Act into law to see that this Act is not put into effect."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"A very arbitrary power, an atomic bomb, has been placed in the hands of the Government and I believe the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon will communicate to the Home Minister my request that he will not make use of the provisions of this Bill until he is compelled to make use of them. The pity of the whole thing is that the trouble is not with regard the Home front. The atomic bombs can work there. But they do not go beyond the threshold of provincial borders, viz., the foreign Government."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"We shall certainly bear in mind the suggestion that has been made. But I do not want to be misquoted. I did not say that after the 15th August there has been a complete metamorphosis in the attitude of the police. What I said was that we cannot treat the police—men as mercenaries after the 15th of August, and there must be a change also in our attitude towards them. They have a stake in the country such as any one of us. That is what I pleaded and still plead for. I entirely agree with Dr. John and Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu that there may not be any occasion to use it. Dr. Subbarayan told in the other House also, words to this effect. I move that the Bill be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried. The Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MADRAS AIDED INSTITUTIONS (PROHIBITION OF TRANSFERS OF PROPERTY) BILL, 1948 (L.A. BILL NO. 1 OF 1948).

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"I move—

that under rule 15 (3) of the Council Rules, the order of business be revised and the motion standing in my name in connection with the Madras Aided Institutions (Prohibition of Transfers of Property) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1948) be taken into consideration."

The motion was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"After the excitement which the previous Bill recently afforded, this will be a tame measure. All the same, this is a very important Bill because it affects the future status of the educational institutions as well as the future policy of Government with regard to the capital grants. This is a very small Bill and it may be summarised in a few words. Members of this House would have

[Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar] [23rd February 1948]

seen the details of the report published in the Press. I do not think it is necessary for me to go through the whole length of the Bill but I want to put it in a very brief manner."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" We do not take note of press reports."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I shall summarise in short the provisions of the Bill. Now, the capital grants to educational institutions are governed by rule 56 of the Grant-in-Aid Code. According to that Code, Sir, if the grant is less than Rs. 15,000, the mortgage is for 30 years; if it is less than one lakh, the mortgage is for 50 years; and if the grant is over a lakh of rupees, it is for 99 years. After the number of years, it is open for those institutions to sell them and mortgage them and to do whatever they like. If they wanted to do that before period, a proportionate part of the grant is to be returned to the Government.

4-15 P.M. " This has worked in a curious manner. Land prices have gone up phenomenally high and cases have come to our notice of certain institutions having sold away property and as a result they have been able to get 30 times what they have to pay to Government. This is not a very desirable state of affairs and non-Members would agree that it should not be allowed in future.

" Till now we advanced payment for capital grants from the current revenues of the province. The suggestion has been made that it should not be made out of revenue account but that it should be found from loans and we have to make sure that the moneys that we pay out of loans is secure for the benefit of posterity and if that is to be done, a Bill on these lines which prohibits alienations is necessary. The matter has been put to the Auditor-General and he has said that unless provision is made by which Government secure an interest in the property, the Government would not be in a position to sanction loans; it is his duty to see that the purpose of the loan is kept in view and utilized for the purposes for which they borrow.

" This is a simple Bill and since it affects a large amount of property and a good many of educational institutions, Government thought that it is advisable to refer the Bill to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses. I move—

' That this House concurs in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two House consisting of 12 members (8 from the Assembly and 4 from the Council) to consider the Madras Aided Institutions (Prohibition of Transfer of Property) Bill, 1948 and that the following members of this House be nominated to the said Joint Select Committee :—

*The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon,
Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar,
Mrs. Mona Hensman, and
Mr. K. Uppi Sahib.'*

23rd February 1948] [Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar]

I beg also to add that a penal provision has been inserted to be enforced against people who refuse to hand over property. I hope the House will adopt the motion."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The Hon. Minister has been very nice in nominating three members from this side of the House, members who are quite competent and would be of great help in the Select Committee."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Mr. Deputy President, I am very glad that a Bill of this sort has been brought before the House. I am sorry that the principle enunciated has not been extended to local bodies. From the year 1942, I know a number of institutions have alienated their property for nominal sums and they are being enjoyed by payment of nominal sums. These cases also should be brought under the scope of the Bill."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Regarding properties of local bodies, I fear it may not apply. To begin with, the Bill has been drafted so as to cover educational institutions and may be extended so as to cover medical and other institutions for which capital grants are made by Government."

The motion was put and carried.

(3) THE MADRAS RE-ENACTING AND REPEALING BILLS (NOS. I AND II),
1948 (L.A. BILL NOS. 3 AND 6 OF 1948).

* THE HON SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I move—

' that this House concurs in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses consisting of 18 members (12 members from the Assembly and 6 members from the Council) to consider the Madras Re-enacting and Repealing (No. I) Bill, 1948, and that the following members of this House be nominated to the said Joint Select Committee.'

" There is another motion standing in the Home Minister's name (item 5 in the agenda) and I beg that I may also be permitted to make the motion. The idea of the Home Minister was that the Joint Select Committee for both the Bills may be the same.

" I move that this House concurs in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses consisting of 18 members (12 members from the Assembly and 6 from the Council) to consider the Madras Re-enacting and Repealing (No. II Bill), 1948 and that the following members of this House be nominated to the said Joint Select Committee.

" You remember that during the Advisers' regime, there were no legislatures and the Governor was exercising the powers of legislation under section 93 of the Government of India Act and he passed various acts and they will cease to have any force after two years after the closing of the section 93 regime. Such of those bills as require to be re-enacted have to re-enacted, those to

[Sri K. Madhava Menon]

[23rd February 1948]

be re-enacted with modifications to suit present days conditions, have to be re-enacted with suitable modifications and there are yet others which have to be repealed, being not necessary. The first schedule contains Acts which have to be re-enacted as they are, the second contains Acts which have to be re-enacted with certain modifications consistent with have the change in times and the third contains Acts which have to be repealed altogether. They are not controversial measures but are necessary in the day-to-day working of Government. The names of members have been originally given as—

Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu,

K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur,

The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon,

Sri B. Bhima Rao,

Mr. M. Narayana Menon, and

Sri M. K. Sundararaman.

Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has told me that he may not be able to attend. In his place I would suggest that Mr. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar would be available and he may be in the Select Committee.

“ Mr. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar says that Mr. Suryanarayana Rao may be in the Select Committee and I also suggest that he might be there as he will be easily available.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Instead of my name, I suggest the name of Sankara Reddi may be put in.”

It was agreed to.

The motion was agreed, the following members to be nominated to the Joint Select Committee :—

(1) Sri N. Sankara Reddi.

(2) „ R. Suryanarayana Rao.

(3) K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur.

(4) The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon.

(5) Sri M. Narayana Menon.

(6) „ M. R. Sundararaman.

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ I have to make a small announcement. A sum of Rs. 12 was found on the floor of the veranda of the Assembly at 12-30 to-day. Any member who might have lost it may claim it from the office.”

(4) THE MADRAS AGRICULTURISTS' RELIEF (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947
(L.A. BILL NO. 4 OF 1948).

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Mr. Deputy President, I move—

‘ that this House concurs in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses consisting of 18 members (12 members from the Assembly and 6 members from the

23rd February 1948] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

Council) to consider the Madras Agriculturists' Relief (Amendment) Bill, 1947, and that the following members of this House be nominated to the said Joint Select Committee :—

Sri P. R. K. Sarma,

K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur,

Sri B. Bhima Rao,

„ S. Jeyarajama Reddi,

„ M. Narayana Menon, and

The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon.’

I need not make any long speech on this occasion as the Bill is going up to the Joint Select Committee and then coming back to the House after consideration by the Committee. Since the Act of 1937 was passed, various defects have been noticed in the working of the Act and there were also decisions of courts not quite in consonance with the object of the Bill. These things had been examined as also the representations received in this behalf and in the light of it, amendments have been proposed. What was not in the original Act but is brought in is with regard to usufructory mortgages where the rate of interest is not stipulated. We have received various objects particularly from South Kanara and Malabar about that provision and other representations have been received to the effect that the Bill is not going far enough and there are a few who say that this Bill is going too far. I think these are all matters that the Select Committee will discuss and come to conclusions; I do not think, therefore, that I need say anything at this stage.”

4-30
p.m

The motion was put to vote and carried.

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE VI TO THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL ACT, 1919.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Sir, I move—

‘ that the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by His Excellency the Governor of Madras under Section 347 (3) of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919 (Madras Act IV of 1919), altering Schedule VI to that Act be approved :—

DRAFT RULE.

In Schedule VI to the said Act—

(1) after the entry relating to “ Ammunition ” the following entry shall be inserted, namely “ Arrack-manufacturing ” ;

(2) after the entry relating to “ Ashes,” the following entry shall be inserted, namely “ Beer-brewing ” ;

[Sri A. B. Shetty] [23rd February 1948]

- (3) *in the entry relating to "Spirits" after the word "Spirits" the words "that is to say, any liquor containing alcohol (whether denatured or not)" shall be inserted.*

The draft proposes to make an amendment to Schedule IV to the Madras City Municipal Act and bring in into line with the corresponding provision made by an amendment in September 1946 in Schedule V to the Madras District Municipalities Act and Schedule VII to the Madras Local Boards Act. The Director of Public Health has brought to the notice of Government the need for bringing within the licensing provisions of the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras District Municipalities Act the premises used for breweries and manufacture of arrack and other spirits in areas under their jurisdiction in order that public health conditions may be enforced in respect of those premises. This amendment is made for a similar purpose in the City of Madras. The Corporation Council has approved the draft rule in its proceedings of 21st October 1947."

The motion was passed.

V.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MOTOR VEHICLES (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1948
(L.A. BILL NO. 8 OF 1948).

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Sir, I move—

that this House concurs in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses consisting of 21 members, 14 members from the Assembly and 7 members from the Council to consider the Motor Vehicles (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1948, and that the following members of this House be nominated to the said Joint Select Committee :—

- (1) *The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.*
- (2) *Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib.*
- (3) *Sri S. Jayarama Reddi*
- (4) *,, S. K. Sadagopa Mudaliar.*
- (5) *,, K. Venkataswami Nayudu.*
- (6) *Mrs. Mona Hensman.*
- (7) *Sri H. M. Jagannatham.*

Sir, in introducing this measure not many words of mine are needed. The main object is to enable Government nationalize motor transport in the province. I move, Sir, that my motion be accepted."

The motion was put and carried.

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The House now stands adjourned and will meet again on next Wednesday at 3 p.m."

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY 1948

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 25th February 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMA-KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Complaints of corruption against the Inspector and Sub-Inspector of Police, Kottur.

* 15 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether complaints of corruption and other malpractices were preferred by respectable ryots and merchants of Kottur (Kudligi taluk), Bellary district, against the Police Inspector of Kudligi and Sub-Inspector of the place to the Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Madras, in December 1946;

(b) whether the Special Officer appointed by Government to enquire into cases of corruption enquired into the allegations and submitted a report;

(c) if the report has been submitted, whether it is in favour of disciplinary action being taken;

(d) why disciplinary action has not yet been taken against the Police Sub-Inspector although the complaints against him were made in December 1946; and

(e) whether the Police Sub-Inspector is still retained in service and after several transfers, he is again transferred to Kudligi within which taluk Kottur is situated?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) Complaints were made by the merchants of Kottur about the end of 1946.

“(b) No.

“(c) Does not arise.

“(d) Disciplinary action has been taken against the Sub-Inspector. He was awarded a censure. The corruption charge, however, was not proved against him.

“(e) The Sub-Inspector is still in service; and is now working in Kurugodu station of Siruguppa Circle.”

Stopping of Mail Train at Chippurapalli.

* 16 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has received representations from the people of the Chippurapalli taluk requesting that the mail trains may halt at Chippurapalli, Vizagapatam district;

CONTENTS

	PAGES
I Questions and Answers	173-175
II Message from the Assembly	175
III Budget for the year 1948-49—	
Speech of Hon. the Minister for Finance	175-233

[25th February 1948]

(b) whether the Government has addressed the Union Government in the matter;

(c) whether any reply has been received;

(d) whether the Government have received representations about re-laying the Bobbili to Salur railway line which was removed during the war; and

(e) what action the Government have taken?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“(a) A representation was received in October 1946 from the village committee of Chippurapalli for the retention of the mail train halt at that place.

“(b) No. As the Railway Administration is concerned with the stoppage of trains at particular stations, a copy of the petition was forwarded to the General Manager, Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

“(c) A reply was received from the General Manager in March 1947 regretting his inability to comply with the request of the petitioners as the daily average number of outward and inward passengers travelling 101 miles and over, was negligible.

“(d) Yes.

“(e) The proposal for the restoration of the dismantled Bobbili-Salur line has been recommended to the Government of India and their final orders in the matter are awaited.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“In view of the fact that Chippurapalli is the headquarters of a taluk, is it not desirable that the mail trains should stop there?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“Simply because it is a taluk headquarters, it does not mean that mail trains would be made to stop there; the conditions that should be satisfied are referred to in the answer to clause (c) and the fact was that they were not there.”

Workers in tanneries.

* 17 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state what steps have been taken to improve the lot of the workers in tanneries?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi) :—“In 1946, Government appointed a Court of Enquiry to enquire into the conditions of labour in tanneries. Its recommendations were received in May 1947 and were commended to the managements of tanneries for adoption. As a number of employers did not adopt the recommendations and disputes arose with the workers, the matter has now been referred for adjudication.”

25th February 1948]

Ice factories.

* 18 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to instal ice factories to produce ice for preserving fish;

(b) whether machinery has been purchased, and if so, at what cost and for how many factories; and

(c) where these factories will be established?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Two four-ton ice plants have been purchased from the Army Disposals at a cost of Rs. 34,000 each. Orders have been placed for the supply of two units of ice factories-cum-cold stores at total estimated cost of Rs. 4,20,000. It is proposed to instal two ice-making plants as well as two ice factories-cum-cold stores.

“(c) The two ice-making plants are proposed to be installed one at Tanur (Malabar district) and the other at Adirampatnam (Tanjore district). The two ice factories-cum-cold stores will be installed, one at Mangalore and the other at West Hill.”

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“I have to announce that the following message, dated the 24th February 1948, from the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly has been received by me :—

“In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Prohibition Amendment Bill (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1948), as passed by the Assembly, for the concurrence of the Council.”

III.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1948-49.

3-8
p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“Sir, I rise to present to the House the Revised Estimates for the current year, 1947-48, and the Budget Estimates for the next year, 1948-49.

Introductory.

2. Since my predecessor presented the budget estimates of the current year in March 1947, many momentous events have happened which have a far-reaching and intimate relationship with the future of our country. The decision of the British Government to transfer power before the 30th June 1948 and the actual implementation of it on the 15th August 1947 is the grandest and the most memorable of them all. There cannot be a greater day for the country than that day when the freedom for which the people strove, worked and suffered innumerable privations and sacrificed in a manner which has no parallel,

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

became a glorious fact and a proud achievement. With every flag that went up, our hearts shrunken with the shame of slavery unfolded themselves and fluttered with the throb of a new-found joy. Every lamp that was lighted that day mirrored the great glow of freedom that had just dawned. We marched out of our households with a halo of triumphant joy silently remembering our great Captain and his brave crew for having brought us safe to the shore of freedom, notwithstanding the stormy waves of imperialism beating our ship back. We felt thrilled as though we had been blind all the while, and having miraculously regained our eye-sight, had been enabled to see the full moon in conjunction with Venus and Mercury.

Burma too gained her Republican Independence on the 4th of January, and Ceylon her Dominion Independence on the 4th instant. The pageant of joyous festivities that were witnessed in Delhi and in Madras were re-witnessed in the streets and the households of Rangoon and Mandalay and of Colombo and Kandy. Madras has vital connexions with these two countries and is naturally interested in the progress these neighbours are making. At long last, Britain enunciated a bold policy of wise statesmanship and allowed countries to regain their national freedom. The United States of America also allowed the Philippines to have her full freedom. How we wish that other continental countries, which were vanquished and beaten in the recent war, would emulate the noble example of the United States of America and the United Kingdom! We want Indonesia, Indo-China and other Asian and African countries to be free, so that the world may not re-witness wars, born in the lap of Imperialism. We are immediately concerned with the policy of the French with regard to their dependencies. Our policy of Prohibition stands in great jeopardy without their co-operation.

Amirtha (nectar) alone did not emerge out of the churned ocean. *Halahala* (poison) was also there. Division and disunity became twins with freedom. National integrity had to be sacrificed for liberty. The unity that was obtained and maintained through long years had to be given up. What ensued after the publication of the award of the Boundary Commission is the blackest chapter in the whole course of

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

our history. Brutal deeds, heinous acts, unspeakable atrocities on women and children, loot and arson, perpetrated in the name of religion became man's second nature and thousands were killed and hundreds of thousands were uprooted from their homesteads and became strangers and foreigners to their own villages. Can a worse calamity overtake a country just entering into the threshold of freedom? As if this was not enough, came the blow of Gandhiji's death. He died a violent death, because he wanted people of all religions in India to live happily and in peace, because he preached amity and unity. He stood high above current controversies and pleaded for fair treatment to all communities. He led a glorious life, perhaps unique and unparalleled in history, blending the secular and the spiritual, the political and the ethical, equally loved by religious people and statesmen, esteemed and venerated by the cultured and the uncultured, but in his *Nishkramana* (departure) he attained a higher level of excellence, worthy of the greatest *Karmayogin* of our times. He achieved liberty for us, paved the way for equality and died in the cause of unity, without which all our plans for development and progress would be futile expensive experiments. His life-story has all the splendour of an epic, replete with powerful problems, mighty struggles and thrilling incidents. It is a melancholy coincidence that Gandhiji died on the *Pushya Bahula Panchami* day, the day that saw the death of a great Saint and artist one hundred and one years ago; I mean Sri Tyagaraja whom I consider as the greatest South Indian ever born. It is our misfortune that Gandhiji is not with us to help us in our Firka Development work in the Harijan Welfare work and to bless us on our decision to have complete Prohibition. Madras has the proud privilege of taking up seriously the question of Prohibition which was so dear to Gandhiji and in commemoration of his eightieth birthday on October 2nd this year. I am happy to announce that the entire Province of Madras will go dry on and from that sacred day. Speaking on the 1st September 1937, while introducing his first Budget, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, the then Premier and Finance Minister, said: 'We regard the introduction of the prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs as of such vital and

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

fundamental importance to the well-being of the people that we felt that, at whatever cost, an effective start must be made at once The problem of Prohibition has been complicated by the revenue from Drink having been worked deep into the financial structure of the Province Our policy is finally settled and there can be no question of withdrawal from it.'

What was then a start, is nearing its goal of complete Prohibition. The enthusiasm of the people for Prohibition is something unimaginable. I had the privilege of seeing it in the eyes of thousands of men and women that greeted me when I went to inaugurate Prohibition in my own district of Nellore. When they are pleading with us fervently to be rescued from this evil and when we had promised to be their saviours when we went to them on our electoral mission, what right have we to organize drink and derive revenue out of it? Let Prohibition be our biggest developmental work. Though negative in its character, let it be the source from which all our developmental and creative work flows.

3. The transfer of power to the Dominion of India on the 15th August 1947 has had consequential changes in the administration of the Provinces also. Though the Governor continues to be the head of the Province, he has now no special responsibilities, nor does he act in any matter in his individual judgment or discretion as before. In other words, the Council of Ministers have become fully responsible for the administration of the Province. There has also been a change in the items of expenditure 'charged on the revenues of the Province' and thereby removed from the vote of the Legislative Assembly. An important change is that the pay, allowances and pensions of the officers previously appointed by the Secretary of State for India have become votable with effect from the 15th August 1947. The main items of expenditure which still continue to be charged on the revenues of the Province are expenditure relating to His Excellency the Governor and his staff. Debt charges, salaries and allowances of Ministers and the Advocate-General, salaries, allowances and pensions payable to the Judges of the High Court and to the Members and staff of the Public Service Commission, the administrative expenses of the High Court, expenditure connected with the administration of the Excluded Areas

Constitutional changes.

[25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

(that is, the Laccadives and Aminidivi Islands), sums required to satisfy any judgment, decree or Award of any Court or Arbitral Tribunal, and expenditure declared by any Act of the Provincial Legislature specifically to be 'charged on the revenues of the Province,' such as, compensation to local bodies for loss of income from fees for licences granted to motor vehicles and loss of income from tolls and taxation of motor vehicles. The result is that the 'charged' expenditure has been reduced from about 7 per cent to about 5 per cent of the total expenditure of the Province.

3-A. As hon. Members are aware, under instructions from the Government of India the administration of the Muslim State of Banganapalle was taken over by the Madras Government on the 20th. The terms of agreement signed by the Nawab have not yet been communicated to this Government by the Government of India. The financial implications will be worked out in due course. The area of Banganapalle State is 275 square miles and the population 44,631 mostly Hindus.

Accounts, 1946-7.

4. Turning now to the financial affairs of this Province, I will first give you, as usual, the final result of the year 1946-7. The Revised Estimate for that year anticipated a revenue surplus of Rs. 39 lakh, after taking credit for Rs. 826 lakhs to be transferred from the Revenue Reserve Fund. The latest accounts of the year show that only Rs. 501 lakhs had to be transferred from the Revenue Reserve Fund so as to leave a surplus of part of a lakh (Rs. 0.64 lakh) in the Revenue Account. The betterment of over Rs. 3 crores was the net result of smaller expenditure on Revenue Account to the extent of over Rs. 6 crores, offset by an increase of about Rs. 3 crores under net outlay on the State Trading Schemes. The decrease in expenditure on Revenue Account was spread over a number of heads, and much of it represented postponement of expenditure that, for various reasons, could not be incurred within the year. I shall not trouble you now with any details regarding the heads concerned. They will be found in the Budget Memorandum. The net debit on account of State Trading Schemes was Rs. 1219.51 lakhs, as against the Revised

Accounts,
1946-7.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Estimate of Rs. 901.36 lakhs. The increase was due mainly to larger outlay on subsidies on imported foodgrains and larger stocks on hand at the end of the year. Capital outlay outside the Revenue Account also showed a decrease of about Rs. 1.5 crores as compared with the Revised Estimate. This occurred mainly under Capital Outlay on Electricity schemes because some items of machinery and plant ordered and expected within the year were not received during the year, and therefore the progress of new schemes and extensions was slower than had been anticipated. The variation in the Debt and Deposit section was relatively small.

Revised Estimate, 1947-8.

5. I now come to the current year, 1947-8. The last Budget Speech anticipated that, owing to the favourable seasonal conditions in 1946, the food situation would improve and an appreciable reduction might be possible in the imports of foodgrains from outside the Province. Unfortunately, the seasonal conditions in 1947 have been very unsatisfactory. The standing crops in most parts of the Presidency (except the Circars) were adversely affected by the failure of the north-east monsoon. In the Circars, the crops suffered damage from cyclones and excessive rain. The total area cultivated in the Province from April to November 1947 was below normal and less than the corresponding figure for the previous year. As a result of these unfortunate developments, the loss of paddy in particular has been extensive in the southern and central districts, the West Coast and the districts of Kistna and Guntur."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" May I know whether I should read the whole speech? "

MR. PRESIDENT:—" The Hon. Minister is expected to do so."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" All right, I am here for it.

6. The food position of the Province has again become very difficult due to these losses. As things now stand, the Province has to face a total deficit of about 1.3 million tons of rice and 0.8 million tons of millets in round figures in the current Kharif year, i.e., from November 1947 to the end of October 1948.

Revised
Estimate,
1947-8.
Seasonal
conditions.

Food posi-
tion.

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

The Government of India first allotted a total import quota of 200,000 tons of foodgrains to the Province for the Kharif year 1947-8, but have now raised it to 400,000 tons. Even this is sadly inadequate in comparison with the deficit in the Province, and we are pressing on the Government of India the need for further help.

7. In order to tide the Province over the difficult food situation in 1947, the Government sanctioned in July 1947 the payment of a bonus to the ryots to induce them to sell their surplus stocks of foodgrains to the Government. It was announced that a bonus at the rate of Re. 1 per imperial maund would be paid to producers for paddy delivered by them from the 1st December 1946 to the 6th December 1947 and at 8 annas per imperial maund for millets delivered during the months of September and October 1947. Under the paddy bonus scheme, one half of the bonus is paid to the producer in cash and the other half in the shape of manures, such as groundnut-cake, chemical fertilizers and green manure seeds - to be used for manuring the producer's land and so increasing the amount of food produced. The cash bonus is being recovered from the consumers by an equivalent increase in the retail price of rice. The cost of the bonus in kind (in the shape of manures), which is utilized directly on increasing food production, is met by the Government as a subsidy under the Grow More Food Campaign. The total net cost to the Government of this food bonus scheme in respect of about 22 lakhs of tons of paddy procured up to the 6th December 1947 comes to about Rs. 3 crores, and the Government of India have been requested to meet half of this.

In view of the big increase in the cost of cultivation and in order to give producers a sufficient inducement to increase the production of foodgrains for sale, the Government recently increased the f.o.r. and wholesale prices for rice by Rs. 2 per imperial maund subject to some reclassification of sorts, and those for millets by Re. 1 per imperial maund.

In consonance with the policy of the Government of India, this Government are adopting measures for the gradual decontrol and derationing of foodgrains. Intensive procurement has been given up in most of

Procure-
ment and
distribution
of food-
grains.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

the deficit districts and is now confined to the surplus taluks in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and South Arcot, and to two deficit districts, viz., Malabar and the Nilgiris. The grain procured in the first six surplus districts will be used to feed first the statutorily rationed areas in the deficit districts and then the deficit pockets in them. As a safeguard against distress in the highly deficit pockets of the deficit districts, Collectors have been instructed to open relief shops in them where foodgrains will be sold at 6 ounces per adult per day for a day at a time. The imports from outside the Province are also diverted to deficit districts, but these imports are not likely to be large enough to bridge the gap between production and the quantity required for consumption. Collectors have therefore been empowered to adopt a system of levy for acquiring foodgrains from big landholders and to acquire foodgrains from stock-holders when necessary. The supplies so acquired will supplement the import quotas allotted to deficit districts for use in the statutorily rationed areas and the deficit pockets.

The position regarding millets and pulses deteriorated rapidly from September 1947. The Central Government allotted 14,000 tons of foreign milo for the months of October to December 1947, and 60,000 tons of coarse grains, mostly maize, for the year 1948. Consignments of maize against the coarse grains allotment have begun to arrive and are being rushed to the needy areas. These grains are sold at prices corresponding to those of locally grown millets, and the additional cost is met by a Government subsidy.

The controls exercised by this Government over the movement, prices and disposal of pulses including Bengalgram were removed some time back in pursuance of the general policy of decontrol. The market prices of pulses have generally tended to fall to some extent after the withdrawal of control, and it is therefore likely that the Government will have to incur some loss in selling their outstanding stocks of pulses.

Till 1947, the Government of India were bearing the entire cost of subsidizing foodgrains imported from overseas so that they could be sold at prices on a level with those for foodgrains produced in India. In connexion with the policy of gradual decontrol now

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

adopted by them, they have decided that from 1948 they will bear only two-thirds of the cost of the subsidy, leaving the remaining one-third to be borne by the Provincial Government.

8. The rationing of foodgrains is being gradually withdrawn. The Essential Articles Restricted Requisitioning Order, 1947, has been brought into force throughout the Province from the 24th December 1947 to prevent hoarding and cornering of stocks by rich persons and to encourage the free flow of stocks to the market.

As hon. Members are aware, certain other food-stuffs also have been decontrolled, namely, sugar, jaggery, butter, ghee, cream, potatoes, onions and dried or cured fish and prawns. The Government are actively considering the question of decontrolling other minor commodities.

The scheme of statutory rationing of firewood in Madras City has been sanctioned till the end of March 1949. The question whether the rationing could not be abolished earlier is under consideration.

As a result of the policy of gradual decontrol, there will be a gradual reduction in the staff employed for the control schemes. The savings on this account in 1947-8 will not be appreciable. The total amount provided in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8 for expenditure on staff employed in connexion with the control schemes administered by the Civil Supplies Department is Rs. 116 lakhs.

9. Following the policy of the Government of India, the Government have recently directed the abolition of the system of rationing of mill cloth and yarn. As a consequence, the staff in the Textile Department is being suitably reduced.

10. During the period April to December 1947, the average monthly wholesale prices showed an increase of 7.11 per cent in the case of rice, 1.37 per cent in the case of cumbu, and 1.06 per cent in the case of ragi, while there was a decrease of 2.75 per cent in the case of cholam. The index number of the average wholesale prices of foodgrains in the Province in the half year from the 1st July to the 31st December 1947 was 267 against 254 in the corresponding period of the previous year. In the case of commercial products, the corresponding figures were 424 and 392,

Rationing of foodgrains, etc.

Textile control and rationing of mill cloth.

Prices.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

respectively. The working classes cost of living index for Madras City for December 1947 was 298.9 as against 249.0 in December 1946. The prices of consumers' goods generally continue to be high. It is hoped that production will become more adequate to meet the demand and that prices will fall gradually to a more reasonable level.

Grow More
Food
Campaign.

11. In the current year, work has begun on the execution of a Five-year Plan for increasing food production in the Province. The target is an increased annual production of 6.5 lakhs of tons of rice by the end of 1951-52. Of this, an annual production of one lakh of tons of rice is to be achieved by irrigation schemes including the digging of wells and the rest by measures taken in the Agricultural Department. The cost of the part of the Five-year Plan relating to the Agricultural Department is estimated at about Rs. 3 crores non-recurring and Rs. 6 crores a year recurring. It includes schemes relating to the supply of seeds, manure, iron and steel on a large scale, a comprehensive scheme for the control of pests and diseases of crops, a scheme for the training of Agricultural and Science graduates and fieldmen in Horticulture and schemes for encouraging mechanized cultivation by the use of modern agricultural machinery. The Agricultural Engineering Branch started in 1946 is assisting the ryots in all matters relating to agricultural implements and machinery, lift irrigation, well-sinking, power farming, and soil conservation problems. It helps the ryots to keep their machinery and equipment in good working order and hires out engines, pumping sets and tractors to them at concessional rates. The Agricultural Department has 50 tractors at present and the Government have recently sanctioned the immediate purchase of 50 more tractors to meet the increased demand for them for land reclamation. Half the net cost of the scheme sanctioned for the hiring out of tractors is met by the Central Government. The Department also has 724 petrol pump sets and 12 Diesel oil engine pumps available for hire to agriculturists. A large number of pump sets has also been sold to ryots. The concessional rates of hire charges for pump sets will be in force up to the end of September 1948.

The new well subsidy scheme has been in force from March 1947 throughout the Province except in the

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

Nilgiris and Madras City. This scheme does not cover repairs to old wells, but it makes special provision for subsidies in South Kanara and Malabar for the construction of new tanks and repairs to old tanks. The subsidies under this scheme are granted first as loans, which will be converted later into subsidies on satisfactory completion of the works before the 30th June 1948. The maximum limit of the subsidy varies from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 in different classes of cases. The Collectors and the Board of Revenue have been empowered to increase the subsidy, where necessary, up to Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 respectively in the case of tanks in South Kanara and Malabar. The total amount provided in the Revised Estimate for the current year for the payment of these subsidies is Rs. 160 lakhs, one-half of which will be met from the block grant made by the Central Government. A further provision of Rs. 160 lakhs has been made for this scheme in the Budget Estimate for 1948-9.

The total provision made in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8 on account of Grow More Food Schemes (other than those treated as Post-war Development Schemes) is Rs. 336 lakhs, as shown in Appendix II to the detailed Budget Estimate for 1948-9.

12. In the Budget Estimate for 1947-8, a total provision of Rs. 12.81 crores was made for Post-war Development Schemes, including Rs. 3.68 crores for capital outlay on Electricity Schemes and Rs. 1.70 crores for capital outlay on unproductive irrigation projects. The Revised Estimate for the year provides only Rs. 8.61 crores, including Rs. 2.42 crores for capital outlay on Electricity Schemes and Rs. 1.56 crores for capital outlay on unproductive irrigation projects, as the progress of work has been slower than was anticipated. In the Budget Estimate for the current year credit was taken for grants from the Central Government towards the outlay on Post-war Development Schemes to the extent of Rs. 3.87 crores in the Revenue Account and Rs. 0.39 crore in the Capital Account. The Central Government subsequently decided to give a block grant up to Rs. 6.25 crores in the current year for unproductive Post-war Development Schemes, and Grow More Food Schemes debitable both to Revenue and to the Capital Account. Credit has been taken in the Revised Estimate for

Post-war
Develop-
ment
Schemes.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

1947-8 under the head "Extraordinary Receipts" for this block grant of Rs. 6.25 crores from the Central Government. If the actual outlay in the current year on approved schemes is less than Rs. 6.25 crores, the final credit will be limited to the actual outlay.

Prohibition.

13. The loss of Excise revenue in the current year as compared with the previous year is about Rs. 414 lakhs. This is much less than the loss, previously anticipated on account of the extension of Prohibition, mainly on account of the keen competition at the auctions of liquor shops in the non-Prohibition districts.

Village
Reconstruction.

14. The last Budget Speech outlined the Government's plans for Rural Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift. A Provincial Firka Development Board has now been constituted to frame schemes of Rural Reconstruction. A Sub-Committee appointed by this Board has drawn up an overall plan of Rural Reconstruction, which aims at organizing a happier, more prosperous and fuller village life, in which every villager will have the opportunity of proper development, both as an individual and as a unit of an integrated society. The Government have this plan now under active consideration. A Firka Development Committee is being set up in each firka or centre to see to the proper execution of schemes of Rural Reconstruction. The Government have sanctioned for each firka or centre, Rs. 50,000 for making improvements in rural water-supply and Rs. 50,000 for communications. A block grant of Rs. 10,000 for each firka or centre has also been placed at the disposal of each Collector to provide for urgent minor works, such as widening or improving small footpaths, construction of small culverts, and closing or opening of small channels. A similar block grant has been placed at the disposal of the Provincial Firka Development Officer for expenditure on all the firkas and centres. The supply of electric power to the selected areas is receiving high priority. The Government have undertaken to pay subsidies to cover the deficits (which may amount to about Rs. 2 lakhs per annum) on unremunerative electrification schemes in some of the selected firkas and centres. Attempts are being made to improve the existing facilities for irrigation. The Government wish to make each of the 27 selected firkas and

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

7 centres a model for the other areas to follow. This will take time, and it demands a full measure of co-operation, perseverance and enthusiasm on the part of the people."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Is the House inclined to be considerate to the Hon. Minister?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"He can read the concluding portion."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"We leave it to the discretion of the Hon. Minister."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think the Hon. Minister can read such portions as he thinks important."

(The Hon. Finance Minister then read important paragraphs.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"15. The details of the Khadi Scheme inaugurated by the Government were set out in full in the last Budget Speech. The "Intensive Khadi Scheme" is now in force in seven centres, where the All-India Spinners' Association had previously done some spade-work. The scheme is worked by trained personnel of the All-India Spinners' Association, and the Provincial Textile Commissioner exercises the necessary financial and administrative supervision. Thirty-five sub-centres have been opened so far, against the target of forty-nine as at the end of 1947-8 in the scheme.

Khadi
Scheme.

After carefully reviewing the position in consultation with the representatives of the All-India Spinners' Association, the Government decided in September 1947 that the activities of all private dealers in, and producers of, khadi in the seven centres and a belt area of ten miles round each centre, and in the Kanagala and Tiruppur production centres of the All-India Spinners' Association should be eliminated, so as to leave a clear field for the Government's Khadi Scheme. In order to avoid causing undue hardship, the Government gave these persons time till the 13th February 1948 to wind up their business in these areas.

The Government also decided in September 1947 that the distribution of mill cloth should be stopped in four out of the seven intensive khadi centres and

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

that the amount of mill yarn covered by ration cards issued to owners of handlooms in the seven centres and also the number of handloom cloth shops in them should gradually be reduced. The Provincial Textile Commissioner has been working out, in consultation with the Collectors of the districts concerned, the action required to carry out these orders. He has now to examine the matter further in the light of the recent orders withdrawing or relaxing the control over distribution of mill cloth and mill yarn. The Provincial Textile Commissioner has been empowered to prohibit in the "intensive khadi areas" sales and purchases of handspun cotton yarn other than sales to, and purchases by, the Government agency.

From the inception of the Intensive Khadi Scheme in February 1947 up to the end of December 1947, a quantity of 143,975 lb. of cotton has been issued to spinners and 223,552 lb. of yarn have been purchased from spinners. The quantity of cloth produced in the Government centres is 470,092 yards. This does not include the quantity of 164,792 yards woven by the self-spinners themselves. The development of khadi is proceeding satisfactorily in these centres under the Intensive Khadi Scheme.

Cottage industries.

16. The Government formulated a scheme at the end of 1946 for the development of 32 cottage industries in the firkas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work. The scheme provided for the establishment of 200 training units to impart training to about 3,900 candidates. By April 1947, 114 Instructors and Demonstrators, ten Supervisors and two Pottery Development Officers had been recruited for organizing training units. At present 44 training and demonstration units are functioning in various cottage industries. As many as 550 students have entered on this training from July 1947.

After gaining experience of the actual working of this scheme, the Director of Industries and Commerce considered that it was rather too ambitious. In order to achieve quick results, he suggested concentrating on the development of only six basic cottage industries, namely, pottery, blacksmithy, wood-work, tanning and leather goods manufacture, sheet-metal work, and light-metal casting. The Government are now considering this proposal. In its overall plan for the work of Firka Development, the Sub-Committee

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

appointed by the Provincial Firka Development Board has suggested fourteen cottage industries for development in the selected firkas with due reference to local conditions. The Government are considering this suggestion also.

17. In the last Budget Speech, my predecessor mentioned a proposal to start colonies in each district, where Harijans, caste Hindus, Muslims and others would be encouraged to live side by side and maintain the same standards of living. The Government have since appointed a Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee (in the place of the Provincial Labour Advisory Board) with the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development as its Chairman, and have entrusted that Committee with the work of formulating a five-year plan for Harijan welfare work and drawing up schemes for the utilization of the sum of one crore of rupees set apart for Harijan welfare work. The Committee has also been asked (1) to make suggestions for the improvement of Harijan welfare work in the Labour Department, (2) to report on the enforcement of legislative measures in this field and (3) to examine the possibility of extending the work done by the Labour Department for Harijans to other backward communities. The Committee's report is expected by the end of this month.

Harijan uplift.

With a view to removing the social disabilities of the Harijans, the Government have passed the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Act, 1947, and offences under the Act are now cognizable. A second or subsequent offence is punishable with imprisonment.

The Government have now extended the activities of the Labour Department to all districts except the Nilgiris.

During the current year, the conditions governing the lump-sum boarding grants to Harijan hostels have been made more liberal, and grants have been sanctioned for 1,746 additional inmates of Harijan hostels at an extra cost of Rs. 2.62 lakhs a year.

18. In July 1947, the Government sanctioned a scheme for the formation of a Co-operative Cattle Breeding Society at Mecheri in Salem district, where there are adequate grazing facilities, for a period of

Village Livestock Improvement.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

three years in the first instance. The scheme aims at providing, through a co-operative society, the number of stud bulls required by the ryots.

A comprehensive scheme for the improvement of village livestock is also under consideration.

Housing.

19. In order to assist in relieving the acute scarcity of houses in the Province, steps are being taken to organize Co-operative Housing Schemes in urban areas. Housing Committees were constituted by Collectors in most municipalities and major panchayats to select suitable sites for housing schemes. Most of them have selected sites, and the Co-operative Department are now organizing House Construction Societies, which will construct houses in the places selected by the Committees and sell them to members on the hire-purchase system. Such societies have already been formed in Madras City and some important towns like Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Palamcottah. The Government are meeting the cost of a Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the Madras City House Construction Society and of a Co-operative Sub-Registrar for each mufassal society. A total provision of Rs. 100 lakhs—Rs. 25 lakhs in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8 and Rs. 75 lakhs in the Budget Estimate for 1948-9—has been made for the grant of loans by the Government to the House Construction Societies.

The Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, has been extended to all major panchayats and to other places recommended by Collectors.

Estates
Legislation.

20. Under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the Government have appointed a Special Officer with twelve Deputy Collectors as assistants, to fix fair rents for ryoti lands in estates. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, a Bill for the Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and the conversion of zamindari lands into ryotwari has been introduced in this House and referred to a Joint Select Committee. Before an estate is taken over by the Government, it will have to be surveyed or resurveyed, and a ryotwari settlement will have to be carried out. No survey parties are now functioning. The Government have therefore sanctioned a scheme for recruiting surveyors, draughtsmen and computers and training them with a view to forming survey parties in due

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

course. The cost of training this staff is estimated roughly at Rs. 1,35,000. The cost of survey and settlement of the estates to be taken over is estimated at Rs. 67.5 lakhs and the work is likely to take about five years.

21. With a view to carrying out the policy of reform of land tenures laid down in the Election Manifesto of the Congress, the Government have taken up the question of regulating the relationship between ryotwari landholders and their tenants. A Special Officer was appointed to investigate land tenures in districts other than Malabar (which is governed by the special provisions of the Malabar Tenancy Act), and make recommendations. His report is under examination. Pending the enactment of comprehensive legislation, the Government intend to introduce *interim* legislation to give temporary protection to tenants of ryotwari landholders in these areas against eviction and enhancement of rent.

The question of amending the Malabar Tenancy Act so as to secure a more equitable adjustment of the rights of landlords and tenants in Malabar is also under active consideration. Meanwhile the Madras Tenants and Ryots' Protection Act, 1946, gives temporary protection to tenants in Malabar against eviction and sale of their holdings.

22. The Budget for the current year took credit for an additional revenue of Rs. 1 crore from the proposed tax on agricultural income. The Government have deferred consideration of this proposal and the credit has been omitted in the Revised Estimate.

23. With reference to the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947, the Government have asked the Board of Revenue to submit its recommendations regarding the remission or postponement of collection of land revenue in the affected districts, and meanwhile they have directed the postponement of the collection of the kists in the areas badly affected. The Revised Estimate for 1947-8 allows for remissions amounting to Rs. 20 lakhs and the Budget Estimate for 1948-9 for a further amount of Rs. 50 lakhs.

24. As the hon. Members are aware, changes have been made in the rates of the General Sales Tax and the Entertainments Tax with effect from the 1st

Land Tenure
Reforms in
Ryotwari
areas.Taxes on
Agricultural
Income.Land
Revenue.General
Sales Tax,
Entertain-
ments Tax,
etc.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

January 1948. The gross additional revenue anticipated in the current year is Rs. 7.50 lakhs under Entertainments Tax and Rs. 75 lakhs under General Sales Tax. The rates of the Betting Tax were also enhanced in November 1947, and the total receipts in the current year are estimated at Rs. 35 lakhs.

Termination
of the
services of
former
Secretary of
State's
Officers.

25. The House may be interested to have particulars of the number of former Secretary of State's officers released from service and the number still in service. At the time of the transfer of power on the 15th of August 1947, 23 European and 3 Indian I.C.S. officers borne on the Madras Cadre were released by this Government and 10 European officers of the Madras Cadre were released by the Government of India. Nine European and two Indian I.C.S. officers were granted leave preparatory to retirement shortly before the 15th August 1947. Subsequently, one European I.C.S. officer has been released and three European I.C.S. officers have been granted leave preparatory to retirement by this Government. The total number of I.C.S. officers of this Province released from service or granted leave preparatory to retirement thus comes to 51. The number of officers similarly released from the other Secretary of State's Services is 21 in the Indian Police Service, including six Indians, 9 in the Indian Forest Service, including one Indian, 4 in the Indian Service of Engineers (all Europeans), and 15 in the Indian Medical Service (all Europeans). Eleven officers of the Indian Civil Service, two of the Indian Police Service and one of the Indian Forest Service opted for service in Pakistan. Six Indian I.C.S. officers were transferred to other Provinces, whilst four Indian I.C.S. officers were transferred to this Province from other Provinces. The number of former Secretary of State's officers still in the service of this Government is:—

Indian Civil Service .. 69, excluding 21 officers who are serving under the Government of India. (Of these, 54 are Indians.)

Indian Police Service .. 26, excluding 3 officers who are serving under the Government of India. (Of these, 18 are Indians.)

Indian Service of Engineers. 16, of whom 14 are Indians.

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

Indian Forest Service .. 14, excluding 3 officers serving under the Government of India. All of these are Indians.

Indian Medical Service.. 6, of whom 5 are Indians. The sixth officer is the European Surgeon to His Excellency the Governor who will be in service only during the period of office of the present Governor.

Indian Educational Service. 1 Indian Officer.

Indian Veterinary Service. 1 European Officer.

Thus, out of a total of 133 officers still in service in this Province, 106 are Indians. The compensation payable to Indian officers released from service is paid in India. European officers who are entitled to compensation have to apply to the Commonwealth Relations Ministry (India Section) of the British Government for payment. The amounts provided for payment of compensation to Indian officers alone are Rs. 4.13 lakhs in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8 and Rs. 0.60 lakh in the Budget Estimate for 1948-9.

26. The Government recently sanctioned the formation of four new units of Armed Police at an ultimate cost of Rs. 37 lakhs a year recurring and Rs. 151 lakhs non-recurring, including expenditure on the purchase of special equipment. The expenditure in the current year is estimated at about Rs. 90 lakhs. The Government have also sanctioned the immediate formation of a voluntary force known as the Home Guards, which will be a disciplined and self-reliant citizen force available to be called out to assist the Police Force in the maintenance of law and order in emergencies.

Additional
Police.

27. In connexion with the Independence Day celebrations, about 7,000 prisoners were released. Under recent orders, prisoners are now classified into two classes, Class I and Class II, with reference to their social standing and mode of life, irrespective of the crime for which they have been convicted. These two classes replace the old A, B and C classes. Political prisoners are classified as 'Special class prisoners.' These orders involve also an increase in the privileges previously allowed to the prisoners.

Jails
Department.

A separate department of Certified Schools has been created with a separate Chief Inspector. The

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Government have also appointed an Adviser in Child Psychology with a view to adopting better methods of reforming juvenile delinquents.

Education
Department.

28. In regard to elementary education, the Government have already announced that it is their policy to develop basic education. For the purpose of organizing basic education throughout the Province efficiently and as soon as possible, two Basic Education Officers have been appointed, one for the Andhra areas and the other for the rest of the Province. Basic schools have been started in certain centres, and the Government have also arranged for the training of the staff of training schools in basic education. We hope that basic education will expand considerably during the budget year, and I shall later mention the new schemes relating to it that have been included in the budget.

The scheme for the extension of compulsory elementary education is also making progress. The expenditure on grants to local bodies and private aided managements for this scheme in the current year is now estimated at about Rs. 39 lakhs. The rates of grants for the teachers of all grades in elementary schools under private aided managements and panchayats were revised with effect from the 1st January 1947 on account of the revision of the scales of pay of teachers. As a consequence, the provision of Rs. 119 lakhs under 'Teaching Grants' to non-Government primary schools (including grants towards dearness allowance) made in the Budget for 1947-8 has been raised to Rs. 172 lakhs in the Revised Estimate for the year.

The Government have also taken up the question of the reorganization of secondary schools. An exhaustive questionnaire was issued and the replies received were considered at the meetings of the Provincial Advisory Board of Education and the Advisory Board for Secondary Education. The proposals are now nearing completion, and it may be possible to put them into operation in the next school year. One of the important aspects of reorganization is the introduction of the scheme of bifurcation at the IV Form stage, which has been approved by educationalists all over India. Provision has been made for the starting of

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

technical sections in 50 High Schools, and it is expected that a number of High Schools will be able to start these technical sections in the next financial year.

More than a hundred new High Schools and Middle Schools have been started in the current year by local bodies and private managements. The status of the teachers has been considerably improved in the current year. In connexion with the recent revision of salaries, the managements of aided secondary schools were asked to pay their staff at least the local boards' scales of pay. To enable them to do so, the Government raised the basis of assessment of teaching grants to private aided secondary schools from a half to two-thirds of the approved net cost with effect from the 1st June 1947. In the case of local bodies, with effect from the 1st January 1947 the Government are paying grants towards the cost of maintaining their secondary schools on the basis of half the net cost instead of making fixed payments as they did previously. To give greater opportunities for teachers in the lower grades, 40 per cent of the posts in the cadre of Junior Deputy Inspectors has been reserved for secondary grade teachers in local board and aided school services, and it is proposed to reserve 25 per cent of the posts in the cadre of District Educational Officers for direct recruitment from among L.T. Assistants and Headmasters of local board and aided school services. The Government have also just decided to revise the qualifications required and the scales of pay for Pandits and Munshis in secondary schools.

As the hon. Members may know, two new Engineering Colleges were started last year, one at Cocanada and another for Anantapur at Guindy. The College that was started a year earlier in Coimbatore is also in its infancy now. Arrangements are being made to put these Colleges on a more permanent basis, and it is hoped that it will be possible to shift the Coimbatore and Anantapur Engineering Colleges to their permanent places in the budget year. In view of the keen demand for collegiate education generally, a large number of new private colleges have been opened in the current year and extra accommodation was provided in many Government and other Colleges.

29. The Government have sanctioned schemes for the expansion of the Government Stanley Medical College, Madras, and the Andhra Medical College,

Medical
Department.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Vizagapatam, and the attached hospitals, so that the number of annual admissions to each of these two colleges may be increased to 100. Work on the reconstruction of the Government Headquarters Hospitals at Trichinopoly, Calicut and Tuticorin, previously held in abeyance, is now being taken up. The expansion of the Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Tambaram by constructing new wards has been sanctioned and the work is under execution. Under the post-war scheme of expansion of District Headquarters Hospitals, the hospitals at Ellore, Mangalore and Ramnad will be taken up during the first quinquennium. As the first instalment of the post-war schemes for Combined Medical and Public Health Centres, the Government have sanctioned the opening of 30 village centres and five taluk centres at the rate of six village centres and one taluk centre per taluk in the current year, but they are now considering the question of revising the scheme by reducing the staff and the number of beds in each centre, so that more centres may be opened with the funds available for the purpose.

There have been a number of generous offers recently from philanthropic persons to give donations for the construction of hospitals, but the high cost of building materials and the restrictions on their use have hampered the acceptance of these offers.

At the instance of the Government of India, 58 refugee medical students have been admitted in the various Medical Colleges in this Province, and hostel accommodation has been provided for them.

In June 1947, the Hon. the Minister for Public Health convened a Medical and Public Health Conference to discuss Medical and Public Health problems, with special reference to the recommendations of the Health Survey and Development Committee of the Government of India. The Conference decided to appoint two Committees, one for Medical Education and the other for Medical Relief and Public Health, to make detailed enquiries and report to the Government. The Committee on Medical Education has submitted its report, and it is now under consideration by the Government. The report of the Committee on Medical Relief and Public Health is expected shortly.

[25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

The School of Indian Medicine has been converted into a College from this year and admissions to the L.I.M. course have been stopped. The Government have also sanctioned the opening of a Research Department in Indian Medicine.

30. One of the Government's Post-war Development schemes provides for the extension of piped water-supply to all municipalities and places with a population of not less than 10,000, and of drainage schemes to all places with a population of over 5,000 within a period of 20 years. The execution of water-supply and drainage schemes is, however, slow due to lack of staff and materials and the need for revising the estimates owing to the rise in costs. The Government recently appointed an Expert Committee to advise how progress could best be accelerated. The Committee's report has been made available to the Press and the public and suggestions may be made up to the 28th February 1948. The report of the Committee and any suggestions made will be given careful consideration.

Water-
supply and
Drainage
Schemes.

The Government have also drawn up a Post-war Plan for improving rural water-supply, and have constituted a special fund of Rs. 1 crore in the current year for this purpose. A sum of Rs. 15 lakhs will be set apart every year from revenues for expenditure on rural water-supply. If in any year the expenditure on rural water-supply schemes exceeds Rs. 15 lakhs, the extra expenditure will be met by drawing on the special Fund. If, on the other hand, any balance is left unspent out of the annual allotment of Rs. 15 lakhs, it will be added to the Fund.

Up to now, half grants have usually been given to local bodies towards the cost of expenditure on water-supply and drainage schemes. In the case of rural water-supply schemes, the entire initial cost is met by the Government.

The Water-supply and Drainage Committee has recommended that the entire responsibility for the provision of adequate water-supply and drainage in urban areas also should vest in the Government and that, in order to reduce the consequent burden on the Provincial revenues, all revenues derived from Municipal areas by the sale of water and the like should be pooled into a Provincial Water-supply and Drainage Fund.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

The Government hope that, after they have made their final decisions on the recommendations of the Water-supply and Drainage Committee, it will be possible to go ahead speedily with the provision of good drinking water and drainage facilities for the people of the Province.

National
Highways.

31. The National Highways Scheme has not yet been finally ratified, but it is anticipated that the Government of India will reimburse in full to this Government the entire expenditure on Original Works approved by them and on repairs in respect of National Highways. Credit has been taken in the Revised Estimate for the recovery of Rs. 63 lakhs from the Government of India, and this is shown as a deduction from expenditure.

As the new Highways Department is only just settling down, the progress in road development has been slower than was originally anticipated, but it is hoped that progress will be more rapid next year. The revision of the five-year programme of work on Provincial Highways is under consideration. A programme relating to National Highways has been forwarded to the Government of India.

Relief of
refugees.

32. At the instance of the Government of India, various measures are being undertaken for the relief of refugees from Pakistan. The entire expenditure will be recovered from the Government of India, except for a sum of Rs. 1 lakh which this Government propose to contribute for the purpose in the current year. A provision of Rs. 10,000 for the relief of Madras refugees from Hyderabad is also included in the Revised Estimate.

State
Trading
Schemes.

33. The net outlay on State Trading Schemes in 1947-8 according to the revised estimate amounts to only Rs. 1.18 lakhs against the budget figure of Rs. 6.07 lakhs. The stoppage of the subsidized sales of wheat, the enhancement of the selling prices of foodgrains and firewood issued from Government depots and the sale of the stock of manure originally expected to be held in reserve, have contributed largely to this improvement.

Nationaliza-
tion of
Motor
Transport.

34. The last Budget Speech mentioned that the question of nationalizing motor bus transport was being examined by a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet. The Government decided to nationalize the passenger

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

bus services in Madras City first and later on the lorry transport services in the City. The scheme for taking over the passenger bus service in Madras City provides for the running of 300 State buses in the City ultimately. The capital expenditure is estimated at about Rs. 70 lakhs and a net profit of about Rs. 7.80 lakhs a year is expected. The scheme could not be completed by the end of December 1947 as originally intended, due to delay in the receipt of new buses, but it is hoped that the full complement of 300 buses will soon be running. The receipts and expenditure during the first half of 1947-8 indicate that the scheme is progressing satisfactorily.

As regards the nationalization of passenger bus service in the mufassal areas, the Government intend to make a start with this in 1948-9 and to complete it over a period of five years. They are also considering the question of taking over the services on the ghat routes as quickly as possible. The Government will be the dominant partner in the nationalization scheme. The local bodies, the railways and the private operators of motor transport services will also be allowed to participate by subscribing towards the capital outlay up to certain maximum limits, if they so desire.

35. The Budget for 1947-8 provided only a small amount of less than Rs. 4 lakhs for Famine Relief. On account of the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947, the Government now expect that substantial famine relief measures will be necessary this year and next year. They have provided Rs. 10 lakhs for this purpose in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8 and this amount will be met from current revenues as usual. Collectors have also been asked to take up works of repairs to, or construction of, spring ponds, channels, etc., in order to provide additional employment outside the provisions of the Famine Code in areas affected by the failure of the north-east monsoon. Special allotments have been made for the relief of distress caused by floods in certain areas.

Famine
Relief.

36. As stated in the last Budget Speech, the pay and allowances of the non-gazetted Government servants generally were enhanced with effect from the 1st January 1947. Further increases in the pay of Police and Jail subordinates were sanctioned with effect from

Relief to
Government
servants,
etc.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

the 1st April 1947. The rates of cost of living allowance for the higher-paid Government servants were reduced from the 16th August 1947. The rates of dearness allowance to Government servants, including the temporary addition to pensions were again revised with effect from the 1st January 1948. The question of making the revised rates of dearness allowance applicable to employees of local bodies and private aided schools is under the Government's consideration. A lump-sum provision of Rs. 17.50 lakhs has been made in the Revised Estimate for the additional cost in the current year on account of the revision of dearness allowances from the 1st January 1948.

Retrenchment and Reorganization.

37. In the last Budget Speech, a reference was made to the working of a Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee consisting of five Ministers. This Committee ceased to work on the resignation of the previous Ministry in March 1947. A fresh Committee comprising seven non-official members was constituted in October 1947 with Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar as Chairman. The matters which the Committee was asked to examine included the effecting of economies in expenditure on new departments and appointments brought into existence during the War and after, the reorganization of departments with a view to reducing cost and increasing efficiency, the amendment of the relevant rules so as to expedite procedure in regard to land acquisition, investigation of and preparation of estimates for irrigation works, rural water-supply schemes and departmental enquiries in disciplinary matters, the system of grants-in-aid for various purposes to local bodies and private managements of educational institutions, and the reorganization of the pension system. The Committee has so far examined the general working of the Civil Supplies, Education, Public Health, Medical, Agricultural, Police and Forest Departments and has made recommendations for retrenchment and reorganization in these departments. It has also dealt with certain general matters like special pays and conveyance allowances, the replacement of land revenue by a sales tax on agricultural produce, reorganization of the present system of village administration, rural and urban water-supply schemes, reduction in menial establishments and abolition of Regional Officers in certain departments.

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

The recommendations already made by the Committee are under consideration. If they are all accepted by the Government, they will reduce expenditure by over Rs. 1 crore a year.

38. Turning now to the figures of estimated revenue and expenditure to be met from current revenues according to the Revised Estimate for 1947-8, the position is as follows:—

Revised Estimate, 1947-8. Summary of total figures.

	Budget Estimate, 1947-8.	Revised Estimate, 1947-8.	Variation. Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Revenue—Normal	48,24.38	55,19.17	+ 6,94.79
Transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund	1,49.00	..	— 1,49.00
Total	49,73.38	55,19.17	+ 5,45.79
Expenditure on revenue account excluding expenditure on Post-war Development Schemes and net outlay on State Trading Schemes	36,58.84	47,19.20	+ 10,60.36
Expenditure on Post-war Development Schemes	7,06.90	4,26.25	— 2,80.65
Net outlay on State Trading Schemes	6,07.07	1,18.31	— 4,88.76
Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund	..	2,55.00	+ 2,55.00
Total	49,72.81	55,18.76	+ 5,45.95
Surplus	.57	.41	— .16

I need not trouble the House with the details of the changes in the figures for revenue and expenditure under the various heads in the Revenue Account, but will mention briefly the main reasons for the more important variations from the budget figures.

Under revenue, there is a large increase of Rs. 229 lakhs under the head 'Other Taxes and Duties' which includes General Sales Tax, Entertainment Tax, Betting Tax, etc., owing to the enhancements already mentioned. An increase of Rs. 258 lakhs under 'Extraordinary Receipts' represents mainly an increase in the anticipated block grant from the Central Government for Post-war Development and Grow More Food Schemes. An increase of over Rs. 61 lakhs is anticipated under 'Taxes on Income,' but this is provisional pending the final intimation from

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

the Government of India of the share of this Province from the divisible pool for the whole of this year. It is likely that the actual increase may be over Rs. 1 crore. Excise Revenue shows a betterment of Rs. 95 lakhs due mainly to the keen competition at the auctions in the non-Prohibition districts, although Prohibition was extended to eight new districts from the 1st October 1947 instead of the six contemplated in the budget. The receipts under 'Motor Vehicles Acts,' 'Agriculture,' 'Civil Works,' 'Miscellaneous' and 'Civil Defence' are larger by about Rs. 20 to 25 lakhs each. On the other hand, there are decreases of about Rs. 31 lakhs under 'Land Revenue,' Rs. 38 lakhs under 'Stamps' and Rs. 22 lakhs under 'Irrigation.' The decrease under 'Land Revenue' is mainly due to the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947, and that under 'Stamps' to a belated adjustment of the payments due to local bodies from the proceeds of the surcharge on stamp duties relating to transfer of property realized during the previous year. Larger expenditure on the maintenance and repairs of irrigation systems is the reason for the fall in the net irrigation revenue.

The amount taken over by the Government from the Minor Ports Fund in 1938-9 was repaid to that Fund with interest in the current year as this was found to be necessary in order to enable the Fund to carry out improvements urgently required by the Minor Ports. The payment of Rs. 47 lakhs on this account is recorded as a refund under the head 'Ports and Pilotage.'

As regards expenditure on Revenue Account, there is a large increase of Rs. 175 lakhs under the head 'Police,' due to the formation of the four new units of Armed Police and of the Home Guards, the revision of the pay of Police subordinates and the employment of additional staff for the enforcement of Prohibition. 'General Administration' shows an increase of Rs. 121 lakhs, due mainly to the revised procedure of crediting as a receipt instead of as a deduction from charges the Central Government's half share of the subsidies for sinking new wells as part of the Grow More Food Campaign. The contribution of Rs. 1 crore to the Fund for development of rural water-supply is the chief reason for an increase of about that amount under 'Public Health.' 'Agriculture' also shows

[25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

an increase of about Rs. 1 crore, representing mainly the cost of equipment for the Agricultural Engineering Section and of tractors bought in connexion with the Grow More Food Campaign. The repayment in the current year instead of in the previous year of the loan of Rs. 85 lakhs taken from the Government of India for Grow More Food Schemes accounts for an increase of about that amount under 'Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt.' Apart from the decrease in the net capital outlay on State Trading Schemes (Rs. 489 lakhs) debitable to the Revenue Account under 'Extraordinary Charges,' the only large decrease of expenditure is Rs. 47 lakhs under 'Civil Works,' due mainly to the credit now taken for the recovery from the Central Government of the expenditure on National Highways.

39. The net result of the variations under all heads in the Revenue Account is that the Revised Estimate for the current year anticipates a surplus of about Rs. 255 lakhs against a deficit of about Rs. 149 lakhs in the original budget. Consequently, instead of a drawal of Rs. 149 lakhs from the Revenue Reserve Fund, the Revised Estimate shows a transfer of Rs. 255 lakhs from revenue to the Revenue Reserve Fund in the current year. There is thus a net betterment of about Rs. 4 crores.

Surplus or
Deficit.

As compared with the normal expenditure on Revenue Account (i.e., excluding the net outlay on State Trading Schemes) of about Rs. 44.8 crores in 1946-7, the anticipated normal expenditure in the current year is nearly Rs. 51.5 crores, which means an increase of Rs. 6.7 crores. The normal revenue is also expected to rise to Rs. 55.2 crores in the current year from about Rs. 52 crores last year. The extension of Prohibition to eight districts in the middle of last year and to a further eight districts in the middle of this year involves a total loss of revenue of about Rs. 4 crores. This is offset by a corresponding increase in the credit taken for subventions from the Government of India for Post-war Development and Grow More Food Schemes, to which I have already referred. Increases in revenue occur under Income-tax (about Rs. 2.4 crores) and Commercial Taxes (about Rs. 2 crores). On the other hand, the net outlay on State Trading Schemes which amounted to

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

nearly Rs. 12.2 crores last year is expected to be about Rs. 1.2 crores only in the current year, so that there is a betterment of about Rs. 11 crores under this head. The net result is that, instead of drawing from the Revenue Reserve Fund to the extent of over Rs. 5 crores as in 1946-7, we expect to transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund in the current year about Rs. 2.5 crores. The total net betterment anticipated in the current year as compared with 1946-7 is thus about Rs. 7.5 crores.

Capital and
Debt heads,
1947-8.

40. I shall now deal briefly with the figures under Capital and Debt heads for the current year. Capital Outlay is expected to fall short of the Budget provision by about Rs. 66 lakhs. The chief decrease occurs under 'Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.' A provision of Rs. 51 lakhs was made in the budget for 1947-8 for the purchase of shares in the proposed Provincial Industrial Finance Corporation and another lump sum of Rs. 50 lakhs for capital outlay on new industrial concerns in connexion with the scheme for the nationalization of basic industries, such as manufacture of cement, soda ash, etc. As it is not likely that any expenditure will be incurred on these schemes in 1947-8, the provision for them has been omitted from the Revised Estimate, apart from a token sum of Rs. 100 for the former item. On the other hand, a provision of Rs. 25 lakhs has been made in the Revised Estimate for the purchase of shares in the ammonium sulphate factory under construction by the Central Government at Sindhri, Bihar, as the provision made in 1946-7 was not utilized and it is now expected that the payment may be made in 1947-8.

There is also a large decrease of Rs. 75 lakhs under 'Civil Works,' due mainly to smaller outlay on buildings relating to the Medical Department, as the progress of works is hampered by shortages of materials.

The decrease under 'Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes' is less than Rs. 1 lakh, but the Revised Estimate includes the provisional payment of Rs. 133 lakhs in connexion with the acquisition of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation by the Government in August 1947, for which only a token sum of Rs. 100 was provided in the Budget Estimate. The additional

[25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

outlay on this account has been offset by smaller outlay generally under all other electricity systems, except the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme.

There is an increase of Rs. 70 lakhs under 'Capital Account of other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account' for the purchase of additional buses for the State Bus Service in Madras City, for which only a token provision of Rs. 100 was made in the budget.

There is also an apparent increase of Rs. 24 lakhs under 'Irrigation' which is due mainly to a change made by the Auditor-General in accounting procedure.

The net disbursements under 'Loans and Advances' show an increase of Rs. 223 lakhs. This is due to the provision for the grant of short-term loans to the extent of Rs. 400 lakhs to the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank for financing foodgrains procurement operations (with repayments of Rs. 200 lakhs by the Bank in the year) and for advances of Rs. 25 lakhs to Co-operative House Construction Societies.

41. A loan of Rs. 6 crores bearing interest at two and seven-eighths (2-7/8) per cent per annum was taken from the Central Government in November 1947 and is repayable in 1962. The entire proceeds of the loan will be utilized for financing Capital Outlay and for re-lending to local bodies, agriculturists, etc. No loan has been raised in the open market in 1947-8.

Loan from
the Central
Government.

42. The total outstanding balance of loans due to the Central Government on the 31st March 1948 will be Rs. 9.38 crores and the outstanding balance of loans raised in the open market will be Rs. 15.59 crores. The total outstanding loans will thus be about Rs. 25 crores, which is less than a half year's revenue at present. The loans advanced to local bodies, agriculturists and others and due to the Government will be about Rs. 9.10 crores.

Budget Estimate, 1948-9.

43. I pass now to the Budget Estimates for 1948-9. Before giving the figures for the estimated revenue and expenditure of the coming year, I shall explain some important special features of the budget.

Budget
Estimate,
1948-9
Revenue
Account.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Land
Revenue.

44. A provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for remissions of land revenue in the budget year in view of the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947 in certain areas, in addition to the Rs. 20 lakhs provided for remissions in the current year. No allowance has been made for the effect of the Zamindari legislation now under consideration.

Extension of
Prohibition.

45. The loss of revenue on account of the extension of Prohibition to the remaining districts for one half-year during the budget year will be about Rs. 384 lakhs. There will also be additional expenditure on enforcement and ameliorative measures. A lump sum provision of Rs. 18 lakhs for the half-year is included for this under the head 'Police.'

The Police Department is in charge of the enforcement of Prohibition in some districts and the Excise Department in others. The Prohibition Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government has, in its preliminary report, recommended entrusting the work of enforcement of Prohibition to the Police Department in all districts. It has also recommended entrusting the ameliorative work connected with Prohibition to the Co-operative Department. The Government are considering the matter. From 1949-50, the Excise Revenue which rose to about Rs. 17 crores in 1945-6 will practically disappear, and the Government will also be incurring additional expenditure on enforcement and ameliorative measures to the extent of about rupees one crore a year. Enthusiastic and untiring co-operation by all sections of the people is, of course, essential to make Prohibition a success in this Province.

General
Sales Tax
Entertain-
ment Tax
etc.

46. The Budget takes credit for additional revenue of Rs. 3.75 crores as a consequence of the changes made in the rates of the General Sales Tax from the 1st January 1948. The total estimated revenue from this source is about Rs. 11.5 crores. Credit is also taken for a gross additional revenue of Rs. 30 lakhs with reference to the changes in the rates of the Entertainment Tax from the 1st January 1948, with a corresponding provision on the expenditure side for the payment to local bodies of the increased proceeds of the tax, less 10 per cent for the cost of collection, etc.

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

47. The total amount provided in the Budget for Post-war Development Schemes including Capital Outlay and loans is Rs. 12.81 crores, of which the amount relating to unproductive schemes both Revenue and Capital (excluding Irrigation Capital Outlay), is Rs. 5.30 crores. The provision made for Grow More Food Schemes not included under the Post-war Development Schemes is Rs. 3.54 crores. This includes the provision of Rs. 1.60 crores already mentioned, for continuing the scheme of subsidies for sinking new wells. The details of the provision for Post-war Development Schemes and Grow More Food Schemes will be found in Appendices I and II to the detailed Budget Estimates. The Central Government have not yet indicated what block grant they will give towards the cost of these schemes in the budget year. In the absence of any definite information, credit has been taken in the Budget for a block grant of Rs. 4 crores, which is roughly 50 per cent of the estimated expenditure on schemes likely to be eligible to count against the grant.

Post-war
Development
and Grow
More Food
Schemes.

48. I have already mentioned the revision of the rates of dearness allowance paid to Government servants, etc., from January 1948. As the decision to revise the rates was taken at a late stage, only a rough lump sum provision could be entered under each major head of account for the extra cost. The total provision so made is Rs. 105.50 lakhs. The total estimated cost to the Government in 1948-9 on account of dearness allowance to Government servants, village establishments, and employees of local bodies and aided schools comes to about Rs. 552 lakhs.

Allowances
to Govern-
ment
Servants.

49. The Budget includes a provision of Rs. 61 lakhs in connexion with the four new Armed Police Units and Rs. 61.80 lakhs for the Home Guards.

Additional
Police.

50. The Government earnestly desire that irrigation by means of Minor Irrigation Works should be expanded to the furthest limits possible. Rs. 37 lakhs is provided in the Budget for minor irrigation works, instead of the usual provision of Rs. 17 lakhs. Every effort will be made to see that the full amount is usefully spent during the budget year. The possibility of turning spring ponds and spring channels into regular irrigation sources will be investigated.

Minor
Irrigation.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Special steps are being taken to develop minor irrigation in the food deficit district of South Kanara, and a special staff is investigating minor irrigation schemes there.

There are practically no Government irrigation works at present in the Malabar district, but the Government hope to be able to construct some. An Act has been passed recently to provide for the levy of water-cess on lands in the Malabar district when they are supplied with water from irrigation works constructed by the Government.

Tank
Restoration
Scheme.

51. The Tank Restoration Scheme operations were abolished in 1931 as a measure of retrenchment. Many representations have been made that they should be revived and the Government are actively considering the question especially in view of the need for improving irrigation facilities in dry areas liable to famine and other non-deltaic areas. Pending final orders after a detailed examination of the matter, a token provision of Rs. 100 is made in the Budget for the revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme.

Bifurcation
of the
Vizagapatam
District.

52. The Vizagapatam district has already been divided into two districts for the purposes of the Police, Medical and Public Works Departments. The district is too heavy a charge for one Collector, and the need for dividing it into two Revenue districts has been under consideration from 1944. The Government have now decided to divide it into two Revenue districts in 1948-9. The North Vizagapatam district will have its headquarters eventually at Chicacole and will be called the Chicacole district. Detailed proposals for giving effect to this decision are awaited from the Board of Revenue. Meanwhile, a token provision of Rs. 100 is included in the Budget.

Acquisition
of sites for
Village
Housing
Schemes.

53. A token provision of Rs. 100 is included in the Budget for the acquisition of sites for village housing schemes. The intention is that, as far as possible, the expenditure on acquiring the sites should be recovered from the persons for whom houses will be constructed there.

Separation
of the
Judiciary
from the
Executive.

54. In the last Budget Speech, it was stated that, though the Government had arrived at decisions on the main principles of the scheme for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, the detailed scheme was not ready for sanction, and that no provi-

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

sion had therefore been made for it in the Budget for 1947-8. The Government appointed a Committee of the Cabinet to examine the recommendations contained in the report submitted in November 1946 by a Special Committee. This examination has been made with the help of a special staff. The Cabinet Committee has approved of the recommendations previously made with some modifications, and has recommended that the scheme of separation should be proceeded with and applied throughout the Province. The special staff is now working out the details of the scheme. A token provision of Rs. 100 is included in the Budget for this scheme.

55. Provision has been made in the Budget Education. Estimate for the development of basic education. The new schemes of the Education Department include schemes for the conversion of seven ordinary training schools into basic training schools, the bringing under Government management of 17 elementary schools in the Coimbatore belt area for conversion into basic elementary schools, the deputation of teachers to Sevagram, Wardha, for training in basic education, the employment of additional staff in some Government basic training schools, the employment of staff for supervision of basic schools, the supply of equipment to basic schools, and the extension of basic education generally. The cost of these schemes in the budget year is estimated at nearly Rs. 11.5 lakhs. Grants to local bodies and aided managements in connexion with the scheme of compulsory elementary education are estimated at over Rs. 59 lakhs. Attendance officers are to be appointed in 8 districts, that is for one-third of the area in which compulsory elementary education is in force, at a cost in the year of about Rs. 0.8 lakh. Provision is made for the introduction of the teaching of Hindustani in middle schools in which this language is not now taught (Rs. 0.13 lakh), grants to public libraries (Rs. 2 lakhs) and a grant to the Saraswati Mahal Library, Tanjore (Rs. 0.20 lakh). A special provision of Rs. 0.55 lakh has also been made for the extension of facilities for the education of deaf and dumb children and blind children.

Our regional languages have to be given full impetus and books must be written making the world's

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

culture available in our languages. Hon. Members of this House are aware that we have inaugurated a scheme of honouring our national poets and giving prizes to the best books dealing with all aspects of literature and science. A reference book on the lines of the Encyclopaedia Britannica is also a great necessity and it is a great pity that while the North Indian languages have had a reference book of that type, our South Indian languages have not had one so far. For rendering help to the non-official attempt to get the work of that magnitude taken up and completed, we mean to give a half-grant contribution of a lakh of rupees a year for each of the two languages for five years. Provision has been made in the Budget accordingly. I am sure that this help from the Government will be appreciated on all sides and that the work taken up in Telugu and Tamil so far will gain momentum and achieve our objective.

The Government also fully realize the need for the development of higher research. Any proposals that our Universities may bring forward for the purpose will receive careful consideration.

The policy of the Government is that every taluk in the Presidency must have a high school and every district a college. In pursuance of this policy, we are starting a college at Cuddapah. Provision is also made for introducing new courses of study in various Government Colleges. Steps are also being taken for the raising to the first-grade of the Government College at Mangalore at an early date.

The provision made for the opening of adult education classes and night schools (Rs. 1.55 lakhs), and the development of elementary education in the Agency tracts (Rs. 0.21 lakh) may also be noted. The Budget also includes a lump-sum allotment of Rs. 1 lakh for playgrounds for secondary and elementary schools. Details of all new schemes of the Education Department (as well as of other departments) will be found in *Appendix I* to the Budget Memorandum.

Medical.

56. The new schemes of the Medical Department provided for in the Budget include the training of 100 additional midwives, the employment of additional nursing staff in the Hospital of Indian Medicine, a building grant to the Kasthurba Gandhi National Memorial Trust for the construction of a leprosy home

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

for women and children in South Arcot district, the payment of subsidies for the employment of medical practitioners and midwives in certain subsidized rural dispensaries, and the conversion of the rural dispensary at Seethammapetta, Vizagapatam Agency, into a regular dispensary. Provision has also been made for the taking over as Government institutions of the Ettapur Children's Sanatorium and the local fund dispensary at Poonamallee, and for increases of bed strength and employment of additional staff in several Government hospitals. A special additional provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made for medicines and hospital necessities for mufassal hospitals and the total provision under this head is Rs. 35 lakhs.

57. Among the new schemes of the Public Health Department, I may mention the introduction of anti-malarial measures in the new settlers' colonies in Malabar district and in the Koya villages in the Polavaram Agency, West Godavari district, and a grant to the Salem District Board for anti-malarial operations. The Lady Willingdon Leprosy Sanatorium, Tirumani, Chingleput district, will come under direct management of the Government as a Government institution from the beginning of the next year. The Budget also provides for substantial improvements to the King Institute, Guindy, to enable it to manufacture plague vaccine on a large scale, and for a grant to the Provincial Research Committee for the promotion of research on public health problems.

Public Health.

58. The Government have appointed a Special Committee with Sri K. R. Karanth as Chairman to report on the measures necessary for implementing the post-war scheme of town-planning with special reference to the Bhore Committee's recommendations.

Town-Planning.

59. The Budget includes a total provision of about Rs. 188 lakhs for expenditure on the Post-war Development Plan for road works, of which about Rs. 185 lakhs is intended for original works and the balance of about Rs. 3 lakhs for restoring to their normal condition roads that deteriorated during the war due to inadequate expenditure on repairs on account of scarcity of materials and other causes. Of the provision of Rs. 185 lakhs for original works under the post-war development plan, Rs. 134 lakhs is intended for works in progress and Rs. 51 lakhs for new works

Road Works

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

(Rs. 21 lakhs for Provincial Highways and Rs. 30 lakhs for major district roads). Under expenditure not connected with the post-war development road plan, there is a provision of about Rs. 334 lakhs, including Rs. 27 lakhs for original works in progress and about Rs. 307 lakhs for maintenance of roads including those taken over by the Government from local bodies. The total provision for road purposes mentioned above comes to about Rs. 522 lakhs. Against this, credit is taken for a recovery of Rs. 111 lakhs from the Central Government towards the expenditure on National Highways. Thus the total provision in the Budget for direct expenditure by this Government at their own cost on the roads of the Province is the large amount of Rs. 411 lakhs. In addition, the Budget provides Rs. 31.50 lakhs for grants to local bodies for new road works included in the post-war road development plan and nearly Rs. 7 lakhs for other grants to local bodies for road works. The provision made for grants to local bodies specifically for village roads is Rs. 4.50 lakhs and the Government are considering the manner in which the provision made for village roads can be best utilized.

Grants to
local bodies.

60. The Government continue to give large grants to local bodies for various purposes, some of which I have already mentioned. A consolidated statement of the provision made in the Budget for such grants for all purposes is given in an *Appendix*^a to the copy of my speech. It has been the policy of the Government not to give building grants in the case of buildings for secondary schools for boys except in very special cases. The Government hope that it may be possible for them to relax this restriction at no distant date. I should like to draw particular attention to another item, namely, 'Arrears of compensation for loss of income from tolls.' During the years 1931-2 to 1940-1 the total actual payments of toll compensation to local bodies were nearly Rs. 296 lakhs less than the total maximum toll compensation for that period (Rs. 68.30 lakhs per annum) under the provisions of section 10 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931. In 1944-5, the Government decided that, subject to availability of funds, this deficiency should be made good by special contributions from Provincial revenues

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 227-229 infra.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

in four annual instalments. Three instalments of Rs. 74 lakhs each have accordingly been made and the fourth and the last instalment (Rs. 73.96 lakhs) will be paid in the budget year. This special contribution is paid to local bodies for the improvement of village roads and conservancy and for wiping off delicts. As this special payment of nearly three-fourths of a crore of rupees a year will cease with effect from 1949-50, the Government expect the local bodies to take adequate steps to augment their resources and close this gap.

61. The Government are giving special attention to promoting the welfare of the people of the Agency tracts. I have mentioned earlier some of the new schemes for these areas. Hon. Members will find details of the provision made in the Budget for expenditure in these areas in an *Appendix*^a to the copy of my speech. As the hon. Members are aware, the Government appointed, in November 1946, a Committee to enquire into the material conditions of the aboriginal tribes living in this Province, including those living in the Madugole Agency and other Agency tracts, and to suggest ways and means for their uplift. The Committee has since finished its enquiry and the Secretary has submitted a report. The recommendations are under the active consideration of the Government.

Agency
tracts.

62. I have mentioned earlier the Government's desire to give adequate relief for the distress caused by the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947 in many districts. The Budget includes a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs for Famine Relief, which will be taken from the balance in the Famine Relief Fund. As this will reduce the balance in the Fund to about Rs. 39 lakhs, a contribution of Rs. 5 lakhs will be made to the Fund from revenues in 1948-9 in accordance with the provisions of the Madras Famine Relief Fund Act, 1936.

Famine
Relief.

63. As in the current year, provision is made in the Budget for expenditure on the relief of refugees from Pakistan. The estimated expenditure of nearly Rs. 20 lakhs will be recovered in full from the Government of India. In addition, Rs. 10,000 is provided for the relief of Madras refugees from Hyderabad.

Expenditure
on Refugees.^a Printed as Appendix II on page 229 infra.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Procurement
of foodgrains,
etc.

64. As a result of the Government's decision to de-control foodgrains gradually, the expenditure on the staff employed for the control schemes administered by the Civil Supplies Department is expected to fall to about Rs. 67 lakhs in the Budget year against Rs. 116 lakhs in the current year.

State Trad-
ing Schemes.

65. The estimated net outlay on State Trading Schemes in 1948-9 is Rs. 404 lakhs, including a special provision of Rs. 150 lakhs for food subsidies which may be required in view of the adverse effect on food supplies on the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1947 in many districts. The value of manure (about Rs. 1.5 crores) to be supplied next year on food bonus coupons issued in the current year is also included in the estimated net outlay.

Irrigation.

66. The only very big irrigation project now under execution is the Tungabhadra Project. The Government anticipate that Rs. 2.9 crores will be spent on this Project in 1948-9. An Act was passed recently to check speculation in land in the project area. The Budget also provides for further work on some other important Post-war Irrigation schemes already sanctioned. The provision includes Rs. 30 lakhs for the Lower Bhavani Project, Rs. 20 lakhs for improvements to the Romperu drain, Rs. 4 lakhs for improvements to the Peddalanka drain, and Rs. 7 lakhs for drainage improvements in the Cauvery Delta.

The Budget makes a lump-sum provision of Rs. 70 lakhs (Rs. 32 lakhs in the Revenue Account and Rs. 38 lakhs in the Capital Account) for new Grow More Food Irrigation Schemes. A list of the schemes that will be considered in connexion with this lump-sum provision is given in *Appendix II*^a to the Detailed Budget Estimates. In view of the serious food situation, this lump-sum provision has been made as a special case in order to facilitate the introduction of a large number of schemes in accordance with the 'new service' procedure during the course of the budget year as and when they are ready. Specific provision is also made separately for a number of individual new Grow More Food Irrigation Schemes that are ready for introduction.

Ramapada-
sagar Pro-
ject.

As regards the Ramapadasagar Project, the Budget provides Rs. 2 lakhs in the Revenue Account

^a Printed as Appendix II on page 229 infra.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

for completing the detailed investigation. The data required by the Board of Consulting Engineers, which comprises four international experts, have been furnished to them. The Consulting Engineers have reported that the dam is unquestionably feasible. Only a few confirmatory tests and preliminary experiments remain to be done, and it is expected that these will mostly be completed during the coming hot weather. The investigation of the left bank canal system is complete and that of the right bank canal will be taken up soon. Detailed reports on the investigation of the project are expected shortly. The financial aspect of the project and the method of financing it are under discussion with the Central Government. Before the project can be sanctioned, agreements have to be made with the Governments of Hyderabad, Bastar State and Orissa as to the acquisition of the submergible areas in their respective territories. A token sum of Rs. 100 is provided in the Capital section of the Budget for the execution of this project. The Government intend to place a supplementary demand before the Legislature with full information about the Project before it is actually sanctioned.

I may mention in this connexion that the Government have recently sanctioned the preliminary investigation of another very large Project, namely the Kistna-Pennar Project, and the necessary provision has been made for this in the Budget. According to a very rough forecast, this scheme will cost about Rs. 78 crores. The period of construction may range from 7 to 15 years. The Government attach very great importance to this Project, which should bring great benefits to the Rayalaseema and considerably reduce its liability to serious famine.

Kistna-Pen-
nar Project.

67. The Government wish to make every effort to bring about a rapid development of industries on sound lines in the Province. As the scheme for the establishment of a Provincial Industrial Finance Corporation has not yet been fully worked out, only a token sum of Rs. 100 for this purpose is retained in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8. It is, however, anticipated that the Corporation will be formed in the budget year, and a provision of Rs. 51 lakhs is made in the Budget Estimate for the Government's subscription towards the share capital of the Corporation.

Industrial
Develop-
ment.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

The reserves of iron ore in this Province are estimated at over 304 million tons in Salem and Trichinopoly districts and over 3 million tons in Kurnool district. A sample of the ore was sent to the firm of Krupps in Germany; they reported that it was amenable to magnetic concentration and that the iron oxide content could be improved to over 95 per cent. We have impressed on the Central Government the need to exploit the iron ore of this Province as soon as possible. If the Central Government do not take any action in the matter, we shall endeavour to arrange for the production of iron and steel in the Province on our own account. The Government are also keenly alive to the need for the production of heavy chemicals in the Province and are considering what assistance they should give to encourage the establishment of heavy chemical industries in the Province. Investigations made by the Geological Survey of India revealed the existence of lignite deposits in and around the Cuddalore and Vridhachalam taluks of South Arcot district over an extent of 23 square miles at a depth of 150 to 200 feet. The estimated reserves of lignite in the area are about 500 million tons. The Government are now investigating the question of the economic mining of the mineral and the possibility of its use in metallurgical industries. A Mining Engineer recommended by the Coal Commissioner, Calcutta, has been appointed for this purpose. A proposal to establish a cement factory at Kurnool with an annual productive capacity of 100,000 tons with Government assistance is under examination. No provision has, however, been included in the Budget for Capital Outlay on new industrial concerns. The new schemes of the Industries Department for which provision has been made in the Revenue Account include the reorganization of the Industrial Engineering Workshops, Madras, the opening of a Ceramic School at Gudur, and the establishment of an Oil Technological Institute in Anantapur district.

68. I have referred to some of the schemes for the benefit of Rayalaseema when dealing with individual departments. As the hon. Members are aware, a Development Commissioner is now formulating a co-ordinated plan for the economic development of Rayalaseema. When his report is received, the Government will give it very careful consideration.

Develop-
ment of
Rayala-
seema.

[5th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

69. Coming now to the figures for the estimated revenue and expenditure on Revenue Account in the Budget for 1948-9, the position is as follows:—

Budget
Estimate,
1948-9.
Summary of
total figures.

	Revised Estimate, 1947-8.	Budget Estimate, 1948-9.	Variation Increase. (+) or decrease (-).
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Revenue—			
Normal	55,19.17	50,32.31	— 4,86.86
Transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund	..	5,62.00	+ 5,62.00
Total ..	55,19.17	55,94.31	+ 75.14
Expenditure on Revenue Account excluding expenditure on Post-war Development schemes, net outlay on State Trading schemes and transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund.	47,19.20	47,05.92	— 13.28
Expenditure on Post-war Development schemes ..	4,26.25	4,83.26	+ 57.01
Net outlay on State Trading Schemes	1,18.31	4,04.42	+ 2,86.11
Transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund	2,55.00	..	— 2,55.00
Total ..	55,18.76	55,93.60	+ 74.84
Surplus ..	0.41	0.71	+ 0.30

I have explained already the important features of the coming year's budget, and it is not necessary now to give any detailed explanations of the figures. These will be found in the Finance Secretary's Budget Memorandum. Hon. Members will find in *Appendix X* in Part III of that Memorandum a new statement giving an analysis of the expenditure on Revenue Account under certain broad headings, such as pay of officers, pay of establishments, allowances, contingencies, etc. A statement showing the revenue and expenditure on Revenue Account under each major head of account, and the revenue surplus or deficit for each of the nine years from 1937-8 (the first year of Provincial Autonomy) to 1945-6 will be found in an *Appendix* to the copy of my speech.

It will be noticed that the normal revenue, excluding the transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund, next year is expected to fall by nearly Rs. 5 crores as compared with the Revised Estimate for the

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

current year. Broadly speaking, this is the result of the extension of Prohibition this year and next year and the anticipated reduction in the block-grant from the Government of India for Post-war Development and Grow More Food Schemes, partially offset by the increased revenue on account of the changes made in the General Sales Tax.

Turning to expenditure, the Budget anticipates an increase of about Rs. 3.3 crores as compared with the current year, excluding the transfer of Rs. 2.55 crores to the Revenue Reserve Fund in the current year. The increase is mainly due to the larger expenditure anticipated on food subsidies, a full year's effect of the revision of the rates of dearness allowances to Government servants, etc., from the 1st January 1948, and the provision for new schemes.

New
Schemes.

70. I have already mentioned the more important of the new schemes for which provision has been made in the Budget, including those relating to the Education, Industries, Medical and Public Health Departments. Other new schemes for which provision is made include those for the transfer of the management of the panchayat forests in certain districts to the Forest Department, the extension and improvement of the road system in the Nilambur Forest Division, the appointment of additional Sub-Judges and District Munsifs in certain courts temporarily for clearing up heavy arrears of work, the establishment of a temporary Sub-Court at Kurnool, an increase in the rates of fees paid to the Government's Law Officers, the extension of the nursery area at the Pomological Station, Coonoor, the acquisition of land for a permanent farm for the Agricultural College, Bapatla, experiments and research in the Agricultural Research Institute at Coimbatore on the black-heart disease of potatoes and on the measurement of draught and the equipment and harnessing of work animals, the training of Upper Subordinates in Entomology and Mycology, a grant to the Madras Corporation for opening three Veterinary dispensaries in Madras City, grants for the construction of godowns by co-operative credit societies, the starting of Co-operative Cattle Breeding Societies in Cuddapah district, the employment of staff for the development of education in the

[25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

Fisheries Technological Institute at Tuticorin; manurial experiments in connexion with cinchona cultivation, the extension of the activities of the Labour Department for the benefit of the eligible communities including the payment of additional lump-sum boarding grants to Harijan hostels, the provincialization of the Madras Vigilance Service, the reorganization of the Indian Women's Civic Corps as the Department of Women's Welfare with a wider sphere of activity, and the acquisition of sites in Tondiarpet for the construction of quarters for employees of the Government Press, Madras.

I should like the hon. Members to realize the significance of the setting up of a separate Department of Women's Welfare to which I have just referred. The Indian Women's Civic Corps was first started in 1941 as a voluntary organization to educate the women of this Province in Air Raid Precautionary Measures. On the termination of Civil Defence Schemes, the Government decided to retain the Corps in order to utilize its services in the work of uplift among women in the Province. Its name has been changed this year to the 'Department of Women's Welfare.' The work of this Department is carried on with the co-operation and guidance of experienced and distinguished social workers. I believe that the Madras Government are the first Government to set up a Special Department to organize social service among women, and the Government expect that its importance and usefulness will grow from year to year. In connexion with the widening of the activities of this Department, the Government have directed that a school building be constructed at Gandhigram before the end of the current year at a cost of Rs. 14,000, and workers will be trained there in three batches between February and August 1948 at a cost of about Rs. 20,000. The total provision made in the Budget for this Department is Rs. 2.58 lakhs.

The Budget also includes a lump-sum provision of Rs. 1 lakh for ameliorative measures for backward classes other than Harijans, and a detailed scheme for this purpose is being worked out.

71. From the figures I have given, it will be seen that the Revenue Account is expected to close with a deficit of about Rs. 562 lakhs in 1948-9. This will be

Revenue
Deficit.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

met by a drawal from the Revenue Reserve Fund. This deficit is arrived at after making provision for building schemes costing over Rs. 5 lakhs each in the Capital section of the accounts as in the current year, and after debiting the net outlay on State Trading Schemes, as usual, to the Revenue Account.

Capital and
Debt heads,
1948-9.

72. The total provision for capital outlay outside the Revenue Account (excluding the net outlay on State Trading Schemes and on the commutation of pensions, which will be met from current revenues) is Rs. 1,046 lakhs in the Budget for 1948-9 against Rs. 832 lakhs in the Revised Estimate for 1947-8. There is thus a total increase of Rs. 214 lakhs. Broadly speaking, this increase represents larger provision for the Tungabhadra and Lower Bhavani Irrigation Projects, for Grow More Food Irrigation Schemes and for capital outlay on Civil Works. The provision for capital outlay on Civil Works includes Rs. 6 lakhs for the construction of a building for the Government Arts College at Rajahmundry and Rs. 10 lakhs for the construction of buildings for basic training schools, Rs. 5 lakhs for the reconstruction of the Headquarters Hospital, Ellore, and nearly Rs. 7 lakhs for improvements to the King Institute, Guindy. As already explained, Rs. 51 lakhs is included for the purchase of shares in the Provincial Industrial Finance Corporation. As compared with the current year's Revised Estimate, larger provision is made for various Electricity Schemes, especially the Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme (increase Rs. 70 lakhs), the Madras Power Station Extension (increase Rs. 52 lakhs) and the Machkand Hydro-Electric Scheme (increase Rs. 34 lakhs), but this is offset by the special provision of Rs. 133 lakhs included in the Revised Estimate in connexion with the purchase of the Madras Electricity System from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. As the total payment to be made to the Madras Electricity Supply Corporation has not yet been finally determined and cannot be forecast now, only a token sum is included in the Budget for this purpose. Similarly in regard to the State Bus Service, only a token sum of Rs. 100 is included in the Budget for capital outlay on new buses, as the Government have not yet decided how far the State Bus Service will be extended next year. The Government have just

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

decided to sanction the Nellore Thermal Electric Scheme and a supplementary estimate will be presented to the Legislature later.

73. Under 'Loans and Advances' the Budget takes credit for recoveries amounting to Rs. 347 lakhs and provides Rs. 485 lakhs for advances, including Rs. 40 lakhs for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Rs. 200 lakhs for loans to the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank for financing foodgrains procurement operations and Rs. 75 lakhs for loans to Co-operative House Construction Societies. The amount included for new loans to local bodies is Rs. 48 lakhs including Rs. 2.25 lakhs for a loan to the Madras City Improvement Trust for the Cox Cheri Improvement Scheme and Rs. 36 lakhs for loans to the Madras Corporation for the construction of roads, markets, water-supply, drainage and other public health schemes.

Loans and
Advances by
the Provin-
cial Govern-
ment.

74. The position regarding the Revenue Reserve Fund, the Famine Relief Fund, the Electricity Reserve Funds, the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund and the Fund for the Development of Rural Water-supply is fully set out in Appendices III to VII to the Budget Memorandum for 1948-9. We expect to spend from the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund, Rs. 74 lakhs in the current year and Rs. 78 lakhs in the next year.

Special
Funds.

75. As usual, no credit is taken in the Budget for the proceeds of any new loan to be raised in the open market or to be taken from the Central Government in the budget year to finance capital outlay and new loans and advances. The total net outlay relating to capital heads and loans and advances shown in the Budget is about Rs. 12 crores. The Government will decide in due course what amount they will borrow in the budget year by way of open market loans or loans from the Central Government. The drawal from the invested cash balances will be reduced by the amount of any new loans raised.

New loan.

76. Taking into account the opening cash balance of Rs. 58.17 lakhs and the estimated debits and credits under all heads, the Budget for 1948-9 closes with a balance of Rs. 74.74 lakhs in cash, Rs. 378.90 lakhs in securities in the Cash Balance Investment Account and Rs. 2,33.99 lakhs in securities

Closing
Balance,
1948-9.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

in the Revenue Reserve Fund. It is anticipated that the Government will also hold on the 31st March 1949 securities purchased for Rs. 423.58 lakhs in the Sinking Fund Investment Account, the Famine Relief Fund and the Electricity Depreciation Reserve and Special Reserve Funds. A statement showing the Government's capital assets and liabilities will be found in Appendix II to the Budget Memorandum and it will be seen that the value of the assets listed will exceed the liabilities by about Rs. 18 crores.

Conclusion.

77. The broad survey that I have made in this speech of the measures undertaken and envisaged by the Government will show that the Government are keenly alive to the urgent need for the development of the nation-building services and particularly the fostering of new life, independence and enterprise in our villages and the uplift of the Harijans and other backward communities, including those in the Agency tracts. The Government's commitments on account of the many ameliorative measures already introduced and those now contemplated will increase from year to year. A further continuous expansion of developmental activities is essential, if our newly-won independence is to bring with it satisfactory progress in the betterment of the lot of the common people. The disappearance of the Excise revenue will result in large deficits in the coming years, unless some new factors can be introduced that will radically improve the position. The balance of about Rs. 23 crores likely to be at the credit of the Revenue Reserve Fund on the 31st March 1949 would suffice only for a very few years if drawn on continuously to wipe out deficits in the Revenue Account on the scale now anticipated. The House will agree, I am sure, that it would be very unwise to allow large revenue deficits to recur regularly in future years and rely merely on meeting them from the Revenue Reserve Fund, as that would obviously result in a most unsatisfactory position as soon as the Fund had been exhausted. Every effort will be made to improve the Provincial revenues by all feasible means. The Government hope also to effect substantial economies in expenditure as a result of the work of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee. The general financial prospects of the Province depend largely on the course of prices. Any sudden or rapid

25th February 1948] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

fall in prices would produce a difficult financial position, owing to a serious fall in revenues. A further appreciable rise in prices would also cause difficulty owing to the need for further costly concessions to the lower-paid Government servants and others. There is also always the possibility of adverse seasonal conditions causing special difficulties, as just now.

The estimated amount of the share of this Government in the proceeds of the Income-tax during next year (Rs. 6.85 crores) will be affected by any changes in the rates of tax which the Government of India may decide upon in connexion with their Budget for 1948-9. Another very important element of uncertainty as to the future arises from the fact that the financial provisions of the new Constitution have not yet been settled. This Government feel strongly that there must be a more generous allocation of financial resources to the Provinces under the new Constitution than at present, so that they can develop their nation-building activities more adequately. In pursuance of this view, I have, as a member of the Constituent Assembly, given notice of a number of amendments to the Legislative Lists proposed in the Report of the Union Powers Committee appointed by the Constituent Assembly. At present, no part of the proceeds of the Corporation Tax or the Central Duties of Excise is distributed to the Provinces. By these amendments I wanted that at least 50 per cent of the net proceeds of the Corporation Tax in addition to at least 50 per cent of Income-tax and the whole of the net proceeds of the Central Excise Duties should be distributed to the Provinces.

The President of the Constituent Assembly has appointed a Committee of financial experts to consider the financial aspect of the new Constitution, and the report of this Committee is likely to be laid before the Constituent Assembly shortly. It is to be hoped that there will be general agreement in the Constituent Assembly that substantial additional resources must be made available to the Provinces. It must, however, be remembered that if, as we hope, financial resources are redistributed to the advantage of the Provinces, the ability of the Centre to give grants for Post-war Development will also be reduced. The Central Government have made a proposal that under the new

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Constitution the profits of nationalized industries shall be subject to all taxes that would be payable if they were run by ordinary joint-stock companies. This Government are not in favour of this proposal, as they consider that the practical effect of it would be largely to deprive all the Governments concerned of the opportunity of improving their revenues by running industries efficiently as State concerns.

78. Hon. Members are aware of what Hon. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had said on the floor of the Dominion Parliament regarding the formation of linguistic provinces. We have no official information on the subject and we do not know when exactly the Madras Province is going to be split up. I do not know whether this is the last budget speech for united Madras. I am fervently hoping that the question of boundaries would be settled by mutual consent even as Gandhiji had desired it.

Our Governor His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye is the only British Governor in the Union of India and he may be the last too. How long he would be willing to be with us is not settled and it may be, he may not be continuing till the 1949-50 Budget is presented to this House.

I take the opportunity of publicly acknowledging the great assistance he was giving me when he was presiding over our Cabinet meetings before the 15th August. Though he was a high military officer, he never countenanced extravagant expenditure and every item was scrutinized by him from the financial point of view. 'It may be very desirable, but is it very necessary? Can we afford it?' are the questions he used to put. Even in the post-Independence period, he was always taking interest in the working of my department.

In the Standing Finance Committee of the Cabinet all items of expenditure not provided for in the budget are examined. Our Premier who is the Chairman of the Committee carefully examines all such items and rejects ruthlessly all items which do not appear to be absolutely necessary. I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge his vigilance and carefulness in putting down expenditure.

Further, I take this opportunity to thank the officers of the Finance Department and in particular

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [25th February 1948]

Dr. Dodwell, I.C.S., the Finance Secretary to the Government. Since the separation of the Finance Department from the Chief Secretariat in 1921, nobody served as Finance Secretary as long as Dr. Dodwell did. He can claim six Madras budgets in succession to his credit. Having taken a Doctorate in Economics, he coupled academics with administration. In March this year, he is proceeding on leave preparatory to retirement and is being succeeded by Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S., who will be the first Indian Financial Secretary to be appointed in a permanent vacancy and I am sure he and his hard-working team would maintain the high standard and traditions of our Finance Department.

79. I have now come to the end of my speech. We do not know in what form the New Constitution will emerge finally. Whatever the future may bring, let us all dedicate ourselves anew to the service of the people and allow ourselves to be guided in all our actions by the kindly spirit of Gandhiji, so that that true freedom which is more than political freedom and for which Gurudev Tagore prayed, and the Mahatma unceasingly worked, may dawn at no distant date!

'Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where words come out from the depth of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;

Where the mind is led forward by Thee into ever-widening thought and action—

Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake'."

JAI HIND.

(Loud applause.)

[25th February 1948]

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Before the House dissects the Budget speech, the House can unanimously vote a motion of praise for the exhilarating speech delivered by the Hon. Minister for Finance." (Applause.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That will not form part of the proceedings."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The general discussion on the Budget will commence on the 3rd March 1948 at 11 a.m."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 3rd March 1948.

25th February 1948]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide item III at page 212 supra.]

Statement showing the provision included in the Budget for 1948-9 for grants and other payments to local bodies.

(See paragraph 60.)

Budget
Estimate,
1948-9.
RS.

VII. Land Revenue—

Payments to local bodies of land and other cesses collected on their behalf 2,04,51,000

IX. Stamps—

Payment of the net proceeds of the surcharge on stamp duty in respect of transactions relating to immovable properties .. † 1,26,75,000

7. Land Revenue—

Payment of fishery rentals collected on behalf of local bodies .. 2,60,000

8. Provincial Excise—

Compensation to the Madras Corporation for loss of tax on places used for sale of liquor 13,600

12. Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts—

Compensation—

For loss of income from fees for licences granted to motor vehicles 21,91,400

For loss of income from tolls and taxation of motor vehicles .. 73,60,000

13. Other Taxes and Duties—

Payment of the net proceeds of the Entertainments Tax .. 82,23,800

27. Administration of Justice—

Compensation to local bodies and others * in lieu of magisterial fines 6,90,900

37. Education—

Grants for—

Secondary Education 14,02,800

Primary Education 1,83,42,600

Public libraries † 2,00,000

Revision of the rates of dearness allowance for teachers in Elementary Schools 16,00,000

Loss of income under Education Tax levied as surcharge on Profession Tax 1,44,000

38. Medical—

Maintenance, Buildings and Equipment Grants for Hospitals and Dispensaries 2,35,500

* Compensation to local bodies and others in lieu of magisterial fines :

Compensation is paid to forest panchayats, branches of the S.P.C.A., etc., besides local bodies. The payment to local bodies alone is not shown in the budget separately.

† Grants for public libraries :

This includes grants to some private associations which are not shown separately in the budget. The provision for panchayats alone is Rs. 1,16,000.

‡ Part of this payment is taken in reduction of stamp receipts and part is treated as 'Refunds'. Details are not given in the Budget.

[25th February 1948]

Statement showing the provision included in the Budget for 1948-9 for grants and other payments to local bodies—cont.

	Budget Estimate, 1948-9.
	RS.
39. Public Health—	
Grants for water-supply and drainage schemes (See also under 50. Civil Works—below.)	11,63,900
Grants for miscellaneous public health purposes	2,98,900
41. Veterinary—	
Grants for the purchase and maintenance of bulls	10,000
Grants for the opening of three Veterinary dispensaries in Madras City	3,300
43. Industries—	
Compensation for loss of fishery rentals	52,000
50. Civil Works—	
Grants for trunk roads (maintenance)	20,000
Miscellaneous grants for road maintenance	26,800
Grants for roads and bridges (other than village communications).	35,56,500
Grants for village communications	4,50,000
Grants for water-supply and drainage schemes executed by the Public Works Department	18,98,700
Grants from Central Road Fund Account	2,09,700
57. Miscellaneous—	
Contributions in aid of general balances	10,81,700
Fourth and the last instalment of arrears of toll compensation for loss of income from tolls during the years 1931-2 to 1940-1	73,96,000
Contribution for loss of income from profession tax	10,53,000
Grants for revision of the rates of dearness allowance of employees (other than Elementary School teachers)	15,00,000
Total payments	9,22,11,100

Loans and Advances

For water-supply and drainage schemes and other public health purposes	45,84,000
For construction of roads, bridges, etc.	15,73,100
To cover deficits..	4,00,000
Total Loans and Advances	65,57,100
Grand total	9,87,68,200

Explanatory remarks for important grants.

Educational
Grants—
(a) Teaching
Grants.

The grants for elementary education include (i) the contribution in respect of Education Tax based on the average rates of Education Tax, namely, 1½ per cent of property rentals in municipal areas and 3½ p's in the rupee of Land Revenue in rural areas, (ii) subsidies for compulsory elementary education to cover all expenditure connected with the expansion scheme and (iii) subsidies towards the expenditure on dearness allowance to teachers determined with reference to the actual deficit in the Elementary Education Fund Account and not exceeding the actual expenditure on dearness allowance.

The grants for secondary education are based on half the net cost with effect from 1st January 1947. Prior to that date, the grants were fixed payments.

[25th February 1948]

Generally, these are restricted to one-half of the estimated expenditure. In the case of secondary schools, a grant equal to one-half of the cost of construction of buildings is now given for those institutions opened prior to 1930 only. The grant is also restricted to building schemes for secondary schools for girls and for the provision of playgrounds for all schools. That is, except in very special and exceptional cases, no building grants are now given in the case of buildings for secondary schools for boys.

Maintenance grants are now given only to certain old institutions opened prior to March 1915. Building and equipment grants are given to the extent of one-half of the total cost in the case of approved schemes.

Half grants have usually been given except in the case of rural water-supply schemes where the Government meet the entire initial cost.

Grants are given at present to cover one-half of the expenditure on the construction of buildings for maternity and child-welfare centres according to approved type-designs. Maintenance grants are also given equal to one-fourth or half the expenditure according to the financial condition of the local body concerned.

One-third grants only are given in respect of anti-malarial operations.

Although the Government have taken over the main roads, they are giving non-recurring grants for capital works on the roads left with district boards (including village communications) on the merits of each case. They are generally half grants. The half grant principle is applied also to the provision of dustless surfaces for roads in built-up areas, and to road works of district boards included in the Post-war Road Development Programme, including village communications.

Fixed annual grants are made to a few local bodies for the maintenance of certain roads.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item III at pages 213 and 214 supra.]

Statement showing the provision separately included in the Budget for 1948-9 for the Agency Tracts (Partially Excluded Areas).

(See paragraph 61.)

Head of account.	Budget Estimate, 1948-9.		
	Standing sanctions.	New schemes.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
8. Provincial Excise	83,800	..	83,800
9. Stamps	1,600	..	1,600
10. Forest	3,11,300	..	3,11,300
11. Registration	7,600	..	7,600
18. Irrigation	29,700	..	29,700
25. General Administration	3,96,300	..	3,96,300
29. Police	3,61,800	..	3,61,800
37. Education	5,09,000	21,000	5,30,000
38. Medical	1,65,100	9,200	1,74,300
39. Public Health	3,77,100	22,500	3,99,600
40. Agriculture	2,23,100	11,900	2,35,000
41. Veterinary	25,100	..	25,100
42. Co-operation	8,600	2,200	10,800
50. Civil Works	14,44,300	70,000	15,14,300
57. Miscellaneous—	20,900	..	20,900
Contribution to the Posts and Telegraphs Department for the maintenance of unremunerative Posts and Telegraph offices.			
Total	39,65,200	1,36,800	41,02,000

(b) Building
Grants.

Medical Grants.

Public Health
Grants—
(a) Water-
supply and
Drainage
Schemes.

(b) Maternity
and Child
Welfare.

(c) Anti-
malarial
operations.

Grants for
Roads,
Bridges,
etc.

[25th February 1948]

[25th February 1948]

APPENDIX III.
[Vide item III at page 217 supra.]
Revenue and Expenditure of Revenue Account of the Madras Province from 1937-8—1945-6.
(See paragraph 69.)

		A. REVENUE.																			
Number of major head.		Major head of revenue.		1937-8.		1938-9.		1939-40.		1940-1.		1941-2.		1942-3.		1943-4.		1944-5.		1945-6.	
(1)		(2)		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
				RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
				LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
IV	Taxes on income other than Corporation tax.			18-75	22-50	41-85	62-40	1,10-85	1,63-50	2,92-50	3,98-40										
VII	Land Revenue—																				
	Gross receipts			7,15-39	7,00-78	7,26-55	7,35-24	7,49-20	7,53-12	7,97-92	8,44-48										
	Deduct—Portion of land revenue due to irrigation.			— 2,19-49	— 1,87-41	— 2,09-68	— 2,35-12	— 2,23-81	— 2,33-43	— 2,90-18	— 2,95-30										
	Net receipts			4,95-90	5,13-37	5,16-87	5,00-12	5,25-39	5,19-69	5,07-74	5,49-18										
VIII	Provincial Excise			4,03-07	3,72-23	3,36-03	3,39-65	3,77-99	4,67-11	7,19-51	12,77-89										
IX	Stamps			1,92-69	1,73-37	1,74-26	1,80-14	1,89-47	2,17-87	2,83-74	3,21-98										
X	Forest			50-46	45-63	44-83	48-48	50-95	71-89	1,16-22	1,43-48										
XI	Registration			33-29	32-70	32-96	37-14	40-06	49-57	75-16	66-16										
XII	Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts.			53-95	81-22	80-50	79-87	77-06	64-58	63-51	77-61										
XIII	Other taxes and duties			2-87	3-19	79-28	1,30-02	1,20-35	1,45-48	3,22-09	6,35-02										
XVII	Irrigation—																				
	Direct receipts			6-75	6-21	6-15	6-87	6-76	8-20	10-32	11-26										
	Portion of land revenue due to works.			1,38-48	1,28-26	1,33-50	1,44-38	1,43-59	1,58-20	1,81-80	1,85-40										
	Total Gross receipts.			1,45-23	1,34-57	1,39-65	1,51-25	1,50-35	1,66-40	1,92-12	1,96-66										
	Deduct—Working expenses.			— 43-44	— 38-39	— 39-18	— 40-62	— 41-81	— 41-08	— 51-79	— 66-36										
	Net receipts			1,01-79	96-18	1,00-47	1,10-63	1,08-54	1,25-32	1,40-33	1,30-30										
XVIII	Irrigation—																				
	Direct receipts			1-96	1-99	2-14	2-00	1-91	2-18	2-59	2-47										
	Portion of land revenue due to works.			81-01	59-15	76-18	90-74	80-22	75-23	1,08-38	1,09-90										
	Total			82-97	61-14	78-32	92-74	82-13	77-41	1,10-97	1,12-37										
XX	Interest			19-54	19-73	23-35	24-40	24-35	25-60	24-00	51-36										
XXI	Administration of Justice			15-71	15-39	17-65	20-33	21-60	24-07	51-01	45-72										
XXII	Jails and Convict Settlements			6-26	5-98	6-33	7-23	8-35	9-27	11-23	14-86										
XXIII	Police			6-40	5-66	8-10	6-79	6-92	7-31	10-30	10-28										
XXIV	Ports and Pilotage			..	44-67	..	..	..	..	..	..										
XXVI	Education			8-03	8-35	9-28	10-00	9-38	9-98	10-84	12-24										
XXVII	Medical			10-98	10-25	10-08	10-27	10-18	11-10	12-73	15-78										
XXVIII	Public Health			3-02	2-59	2-60	2-61	2-55	3-07	4-48	4-36										
XXIX	Agriculture			3-37	3-12	3-19	3-73	3-78	8-52	11-87	12-08										
XXX	Veterinary			0-96	1-02	1-13	1-17	1-19	1-66	1-49	3-11										
XXXI	Co-operation			3-96	4-18	3-89	4-22	3-90	3-54	3-13	5-13										
XXXII	Industries			16-95	18-85	21-63	26-12	28-95	29-78	44-33	67-93										
XXXIII	Aviation			..	..	..	..	..	..	0-07	..										
XXXVI	Miscellaneous departments			7-06	7-62	7-76	8-14	8-99	9-58	9-95	10-55										
XXXIX	Civil Works			23-63	25-12	30-96	27-54	26-41	36-41	45-13	21-76										
XLI	Receipts from Electricity Schemes (Gross).			31-14	42-51	53-85	66-41	77-71	84-44	93-82	1,03-66										
	Deduct—Working Expenses			— 13-61	— 24-81	— 40-86	— 28-44	— 3-01	— 36-75	— 43-35	— 54-61										
	Net receipts			17-53	17-70	12-99	37-97	74-70	47-69	50-47	49-05										
XLIV	Receipts in aid of superannuation.			2-57	2-88	2-72	2-49	3-28	5-42	3-49	3-79										
XLV	Stationery and Printing			4-24	3-96	4-20	6-10	4-59	5-54	5-08	7-75										
XLVI	Miscellaneous			14-67	14-58	14-34	26-95	32-77	45-93	33-67	37-33										
L	Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments.			..	0-27	0-27	0-26	0-14	0-15	0-12	0-18										
LI	Extraordinary Receipts			..	..	..	..	..	..	0-01	0-16										
LII-A	Transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund.			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..										
LII-B	Civil Defence			..	..	..	..	..	5-15	17-83	37-93										
	Grand total			16,00-62	16,13-45	16,65-90	18,07-51	19,54-82	21,92-19	29,84-20	41,23-73										

[25th February 1948]

B. EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Number of major head.	Major head of expenditure.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
		RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
7	Land Revenue	26.31	25.36	23.79	22.85	17.39	25.41	23.45	25.77	26.01	26.01	26.01
8	Provincial Excise	33.08	32.18	30.29	28.13	27.06	32.03	30.07	46.07	51.59	51.59	51.59
9	Stamps	5.55	4.72	4.69	5.41	5.64	7.22	9.64	11.66	13.74	13.74	13.74
10	Forest	41.18	40.17	38.71	37.52	36.75	50.18	80.27	81.99	77.00	81.99	81.99
11	Registration	29.18	29.13	28.73	28.70	28.68	30.13	32.68	34.76	38.56	38.56	38.56
12	Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts.	44.12	75.06	74.87	71.52	70.72	62.00	45.67	62.00	68.19	68.19	68.19
13	Other Taxes and Duties	0.66	0.64	0.99	13.55	13.91	14.81	16.61	18.27	48.41	48.41	48.41
17	Irrigation Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	84.31	87.59	87.91	88.10	88.12	88.14	88.37	88.77	89.45	89.45	89.45
18	Irrigation—Other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenues.	43.74	39.09	39.05	36.96	35.62	36.43	58.99	87.63	77.54	77.54	77.54
19	Construction of irrigation, etc., works.	2.60	1.25	1.30	0.62	0.54	2.87	2.15	3.44	6.11	6.11	6.11
22	Interest on debt and other obligations.	50.92	58.84	60.40	68.87	65.50	68.49	63.77	60.93	65.40	65.40	65.40
23	Deduct—Interest transferred to Commercial Departments.	— 99.36	— 1,07.54	— 1,11.80	— 1,14.12	— 1,17.44	— 1,20.35	— 1,21.99	— 1,23.36	— 1,26.45	— 1,26.45	— 1,26.45
23	Net amount met out of ordinary revenues.	— 48.44	— 49.00	— 45.40	— 45.25	— 51.94	— 51.86	— 58.22	— 62.43	— 61.05	— 61.05	— 61.05
26	Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt.	4.38	5.13	6.74	20.56	52.48	33.55	41.42	49.26	55.90	55.90	55.90
26	General administration	2,76.77	2,76.76	2,75.30	2,69.29	2,76.52	2,82.60	3,00.51	3,14.36	4,27.34	4,27.34	4,27.34
27	Administration of Justice	93.50	90.63	88.44	87.48	90.26	96.33	1,05.20	1,13.74	1,28.80	1,28.80	1,28.80
28	Jails and convict settlements	23.40	23.22	24.76	28.75	33.92	44.59	64.16	62.11	61.50	61.50	61.50
29	Police	1,60.70	1,60.96	1,63.25	1,69.53	1,76.84	1,94.43	2,25.30	2,49.73	2,98.03	2,98.03	2,98.03
30-B	Ports and Pilotage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.30	5.00	5.00	5.00
30	Scientific Departments	0.89	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.89	1.01	1.07	1.05	1.53	1.53	1.53
37	Education	2,57.95	2,61.98	2,63.57	2,79.03	2,87.36	2,99.08	3,18.71	3,66.16	4,59.72	4,59.72	4,59.72

25th February 1948]

Number of major head.	Major head of expenditure.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
		RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
38	Medical	94.70	93.14	97.53	1,01.65	1,02.65	1,10.50	1,30.10	1,52.62	1,80.09	1,80.09	1,80.09
39	Public Health	44.07	26.57	27.30	35.63	33.24	34.74	28.69	41.94	54.48	54.48	54.48
40	Agriculture	21.07	20.62	19.81	20.57	22.49	32.78	38.29	48.11	74.06	74.06	74.06
41	Veterinary	12.42	12.85	12.30	12.03	12.54	12.80	16.70	20.09	23.64	23.64	23.64
42	Co-operation	13.38	13.82	14.25	14.49	14.68	16.01	17.54	22.04	30.33	30.33	30.33
43	Industries	25.45	27.54	26.00	39.33	29.58	52.92	47.55	65.14	72.49	72.49	72.49
43-A	Capital outlay on Industrial development.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.10	22.10	22.10
44	Aviation	..	..	..	0.10	0.28	..	..	..	..	..	..
44-A	Capital outlay on civil aviation	..	..	..	..	0.22	0.01	..	..	..	..	..
47	Miscellaneous Departments	20.16	21.11	21.21	21.91	23.40	26.38	29.60	40.15	71.93	71.93	71.93
50	Civil works	1,24.13	1,19.70	1,22.46	1,15.93	1,39.25	1,62.23	1,46.70	1,52.72	2,81.65	2,81.65	2,81.65
52	Interest on capital outlay on Electricity Schemes.	14.03	18.92	22.61	25.42	28.62	31.33	32.69	33.86	35.96	35.96	35.96
52-A	Other revenue expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	..	..	0.03	0.54	0.44	1.32	1.03	1.43	1.13	1.13	1.13
53	Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes.	..	..	..	..	75.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
54	Famine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	Superannuation allowances and pensions.	3.50	16.04	17.65	0.28	2.49	36.72	1,92.04	3.53	6.32	6.32	6.32
55-A	Commutation of pensions	91.72	97.12	1,12.73	1,10.10	1,13.65	1,16.12	1,22.94	1,30.60	1,38.19	1,38.19	1,38.19
56	Stationery and printing	10.09	..	..	1.40	0.23	2.50	2.91	2.28	3.59	3.59	3.59
57	Miscellaneous	22.31	27.07	22.03	29.99	24.82	31.67	39.58	29.30	43.07	43.07	43.07
63	Extraordinary charges	4.45	4.39	5.43	8.91	52.08	41.82	82.42	82.20	1,52.66	1,52.66	1,52.66
64-A	Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.	..	..	..	..	0.88	0.04	3,62.59	3,04.58	— 1,60.37	— 1,60.37	— 1,60.37
64-B	Civil Defence	..	..	..	..	..	..	71.00	12,36.00	17,31.00	17,31.00	17,31.00
Grand total		15,82.96	16,09.72	16,37.39	17,54.75	18,66.86	20,66.63	29,84.14	41,23.18	47,98.74	47,98.74	47,98.74
Revenue Surplus		17.66	3.73	28.51	52.76	87.96	1,25.56	0.06	0.55	0.15	0.15	0.15

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY, 3RD MARCH 1948

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 3rd March 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The budget discussion is commencing to-day. I would request such of those hon. Members who wish to take part in the discussion to give their names. I would like to have an idea of the number of speakers from the Government side and from the other side so that I may adjust the time to be allotted for each speaker.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ We have got four full days for discussion and I doubt very much whether the hon. Members will utilize all the four days. What I would suggest is that enough time be allowed for each speaker to cover the ground as fully as he likes. For the reason that there is no voting on Demands for Grants in this House, we may have exhaustive discussion and also exhaustive reply by the Ministers. The first three days may be allotted for discussion and the fourth day reserved for Government reply.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I know we have got four days. Last year my experience was that many members wanted to speak at the last moment and so I had to curtail the time allotted for each speaker. For Government Members, I want to allot a sufficiently long time. Meanwhile I would like to have some indication of the number of speakers.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Last year we had only half a day's sitting every day for budget discussion, and no member came forward to speak on the first day.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Members do not generally come forward to speak on the first day.

“ Those who want to speak must give their names in writing to-day before the close of the question hour.”

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged looting in a village bordering the Nizam's State.

* 18-B Q.—SRI N. SANKARA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a village called Kondapragattur in Nandikotkur taluk, Kurnool district, in our Province was looted in broad day-light on 6th or 7th of this month by a gang from the Nizam's Dominion; and

CONTENTS

I Questions and Answers	PAGES 235-244
II General Discussion of the Budget for the year 1948-49	244-297

[3rd March 1948]

(b) if so, what special steps have the Government taken to give protection to villages bordering the Nizam's State on the rivers of Kistna and Tungabhadra?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) A report to that effect has been received from the District Magistrate.

“(b) The District Authorities have taken suitable precautionary measures against a recurrence of such incidents and have also assured the villagers of the affected village and of other villages on the border, of all protection and aid.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“Will the Government take steps to provide arms to the residents on the borders of the Nizam's Dominions who require them?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“People who need arms can apply for licences. At the same time the Government feel that if they do not control the possession of arms, the armed people might eventually turn into a Fascist organization.”

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“May I know whether the Government have received reports of similar incidents in other places also as Chyagi in Adoni taluk?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“As I said in the other House, the Government have had reports of these incidents. All that we can do is to report to the Government of India and the Agent-General, because the Nizam has got an independent status of his own till some agreement is arrived at. So far as the Provincial Government are concerned, the only step they can take is to protect the borders by armed police and report to the Government of India the steps they should take to prevent the occurrence of these incidents.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether armed police are stationed in the border areas?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“Yes, Sir. In fact, my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Agriculture, has been complaining that I am depleting Malabar of Malabar Special Police.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know how many armed police have been stationed in the Bellary district to defend the people against attacks from the Nizam's border?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“If hon. Gentlemen are panicky, even a battalion or regiment may not be able to protect.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“I protest against the use of the word ‘panicky.’ We are not at all panicky. We want to defend ourselves against attacks from the Nizam's frontier, and for that purpose we want to be provided with arms. A number of jeeps and motor vehicles should tour the area.”

[3rd March 1948]

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“Might I tell the hon. Gentleman that arms in the hands of people who do not know how to use them are more a danger to themselves than even to others?”

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“May I know whether the Nizam's Government have stationed military force on their border?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“As far as I know, there are no military forces but only armed reserves. We can post only armed reserves because the Provincial Government do not possess military force.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know whether the reserves on the Madras side of the Tungabhadra are sufficient when compared with the reserves on the borders of the Nizam's Dominions?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“I cannot take the question any further.”

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“May I ask whether our Government are aware about trenches being dug by the Nizam's armies on their side of the border?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“I have already said that I cannot take the question any further.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“In case the armed reserves from the Nizam's Dominions make an incursion into our territory, are our police to keep quiet and report to the Government of India or can they retaliate?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“The hon. Gentleman might have read what I said in the other House. I had asked our police to shoot if the armed reserves from the Nizam's Territory came into our borders, and the Nizam's Government have complained against the Madras Government for such incidents.”

Working hours of the Government buses in the City.

* 18-A Q.—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) why the working hours of the Government Bus Transport in the City of Madras have been shortened by 1½ hours;

(b) whether it is a fact that previous to Government taking over the Bus Transport, buses were plying till 11 p.m. in the night, and

(c) whether the Government are aware that the commercial public in the city who work till late in the night are put to a great lot of inconvenience as the buses stop running after 9-30 p.m.?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“(a) & (b) There has been no change in the schedule of timings laid down for

[3rd March 1948]

State buses. State buses run up to 10 p.m. according to the prescribed schedule of timings. Private buses were also running to the same schedule of timings as State buses. It does not appear to be a fact that private buses were plying till 11 p.m. on the routes so far taken over by Government.

“(c) The Transport department have received no complaints alleging inconvenience as a result of the existing schedule of timings.”

11-15
a.m.

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—“ May I know from the Government whether the State buses stop running at 9-30 p.m. in the Parry's Corner? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ I am not aware of the specific circumstance put forward by the hon. Member, but I believe that these State buses run in accordance with their scheduled timings prescribed for each route. Certain buses start at 9-30 p.m. and run till 10 p.m. and come to their destination and stop.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, if the Government will have any objection to examine the question of extending the running hours of the State buses? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ As the hon. Member knows, the capacity for a man to work is limited. There are now two sets of conductors and drivers, one set working from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the other set from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. If we extend the working hours, it means we will be treating them cruelly. Just as we want to prevent cruelty to animals, we must prevent the same to men also, Sir.”

Grant of licence to the “ Chitra Talkies.”

* 19 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that licence was repeatedly refused on many an occasion by the authorities concerned to run a talkie in the newly constructed building called the “ Chitra Talkies ” near Harris Bridge, and, if so, the reason or reasons for such refusal; and

(b) whether it is a fact that licence has recently been granted to the said talkie and that it is now running its shows and, if so, who granted the licence and why was it granted now, when it was refused on several occasions previously?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ (a) Cinema licence for the theatre was refused in 1939. The theatre is located in a site which is objectionable from the traffic point of view. The street and the roads near the theatre are narrow and there is no possibility of the roads being widened in the near future. The vehicular approaches to the cinema are very unsatisfactory

[3rd March 1948]

and the parking space inside is very poor. These objections were pointed out to the applicant even before the theatre was constructed, and yet he persisted in building it.

“(b) No licence has been granted so far and no cinema shows are being exhibited in the theatre at the present time.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does the Hon. Minister know that this building belongs to minors and was constructed in 1938 with the sanction of the Corporation? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe that the information of the hon. Member is correct, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does the Hon. Minister know that the building was under requisition for the past seven years for Government purposes and was given back to the owners only on 3rd January 1948? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ How is this question relevant to the main question? ”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ There is another question, Sir, which will be relevant. Will the Hon. Minister kindly give his personal attention to the application for the licence? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ There can be no question of personal attention being given to any matter, Sir. If any matter comes to me, I shall certainly apply my mind to it, but I do not see how personal attention can be given to it. I cannot visit each and every cinema or theatre on every application received from them, and if I do so, I shall be spending all my time, without having to attend to other matters.”

Derationing.

* 20 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether he has received representations from the townsmen in the deficit districts that rationing be discontinued in their towns and whether the Government have arrived at a decision in this matter?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Representations were received from the districts of North Arcot, Trichinopoly, Madurai and Vizagapatam for the abolition of statutory rationing in these districts. Rationing has been abolished from 1st February 1948 in Walajapet and Tiruvannamalai towns in North Arcot district and from 8th February 1948 in Srirangam Municipality in Trichinopoly district. The question of abolishing rationing in the other municipalities of these districts is under the consideration of the Government. In the Ceded Districts of Cuddapah, Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary and also in Chittoor rationing of millets has already been abolished. Rationing of rice has been abolished from 29th February 1948 in Cuddapah district

[3rd March 1948]

and in Chittoor and its suburban area in the Chittoor district. The question of abolishing statutory rationing of rice in the Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary districts also is under the consideration of the Government. Rationing in the towns of Periyakulam, Bodinayakanur and Palni in the Madura district has been abolished with effect from 22nd February 1948. The Government are also considering the question of abolishing rationing in the municipal towns of South Kanara district and in Villupuram and Cuddalore towns in South Arcot district. As regards the other deficit districts, statutory rationing will be abolished as soon as conditions permit."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that as far as Ceded Districts are concerned, they are deficit districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government received the resolution passed by the Vizagapatam Food Committee to abolish rationing in the district and particularly in the municipality? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir. I have already said that the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, when is rationing going to be abolished in the Trichinopoly Municipality? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Representations have been received from the Trichinopoly Municipality and they are being considered by the Government, Sir."

Machkund Project.

* 21 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what amount the Government have spent so far on the Machkund Project;

(b) what is the progress of the work; and

(c) when is the project expected to be completed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Rs. 8,21,935 to end of November 1947.

" (b) *Land acquisition.*—Land acquisition is in progress, both the Governments of Madras and Orissa having their survey parties working at site.

Roads—(i) *Lambadaput-Machkund road.*—Designs for permanent bridges and culverts have been approved for some streams and sent to field for execution. Designs for the remaining ones are being finalized in the technical office of the Electricity Department. Work on the road is proceeding in the various reaches and are in different stages of progress.

3rd March 1948]

(ii) *Vizagapatam-Araku-Jeypore road.*—On the Madras side investigation is in progress. The detailed estimates are expected to be ready by April 1948. Field work on the Orissa side is yet to be started. Tenders for collection of metal for the road have been received but not yet decided.

Diversion—dam and intake.—Exploration of foundation by power Calyx drilling is in progress. Design of the dam section has been finalized.

Flume channel.—Excavation and deepening of trial pits along the centre line of alignment are in progress.

Tunnel pond dam.—Preliminary exploration work is in progress.

Tunnel.—Tenders have been called for for the work.

Camps and buildings—(i) *Nowgam and Korsapada camps—Temporary hutments.*—Work completed.

Temporary water-supply arrangements are in progress and supply effected to some areas.

(ii) *Chikumpet camp.*—Work on 29 blocks of 2 'E' type quarters is in progress. Also work on 15 blocks of sheet type quarters has been taken up.

In regard to other buildings, as there was no response for the tenders in most cases and as in a few cases the rates quoted were very high, the estimates are being revised as per actual conditions in field and action will be taken to give the work on contract either by calling for tenders or on negotiated basis when estimates are finalized.

Formation of road to officers' quarters is nearing completion, and widening and revetment are in progress.

(iii) *Permanent water-supply.*—Certain alterations to the design of the water-supply reservoir weir have been proposed and are being attended to.

(iv) *Onukudelli camp.*—Revised layout for the camp with a view to have all permanent buildings at Onukudelli is awaited from the field.

Construction power supply.—A 22 K.W. generating set was erected and put into commission from 24th January 1948. Erection of posts and street lights are in progress. Service connexions are being given to the buildings and the work is in progress consistent with the availability of materials.

Stores and transport.—Except for a few cases of paints and electrical materials purchased at Vizianagram and Vizagapatam no other important materials have been received. Most of the materials from Jeypore stores have been transported to site. Bulk of the materials from Bobbili except a few heavy ones also have been conveyed to the site.

[3rd March 1948]

Transmission line construction division—110 K.V. line.—
Reconnaissance and survey of the 110 K.V. line from Vizagapatam to Rajahmundry and Machkund to Vizagapatam are in progress.

The daily average labour strength during January 1948 was 1,154. New recruitments are being made with difficulty and tenders have been invited for labour.

“(c) The first stage of development is expected to be completed by September 1951 as tentatively programmed at present.”

Retention of retired Government servants in service.

* 22 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of officers who were and are due to retire but are still retained in service (1) on account of extension of service and (2) re-employment;

(b) whether in all cases such extension or re-employment has been made on the recommendation of the head of the department;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints that such extensions or re-employment prove detrimental to the interests of those in service and who are qualified and are looking forward to promotions; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to state the considerations which influence them either for extension of or re-employment in service?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) The number of officers retained in Gazetted and non-Gazetted service, (1) on account of extension of service is 23 and (2) on account of re-employment is 127. The Government consider that in the interest of economy in stationery and printing, a list of these persons need not be printed and placed on the table of the House. If the hon. Member wants such a list, he may obtain one on application from the Deputy Secretary to Government in the Finance Department.

“(b) In all but three cases re-employment or extension was sanctioned on the advice of the concerned head of department.

“(c) The answer is in the affirmative. Two complaints from individual officers and two from Service Associations.

“(d) Government servants are generally not granted any extension of service. When the services of an officer who is about to retire are considered necessary, the officer is usually retired and subsequently re-employed. The policy of the Government is to discourage even cases of such re-employment; and this policy is followed except when public interest

[3rd March 1948]

demand a departure from it. It is only when qualified candidates are not available for appointment to posts requiring technical knowledge that re-employment of retired personnel is resorted to.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“In the reply of the Hon. Minister, he was pleased to observe that in the case of three officers, re-employment was given without the recommendation of the head of the department. May I know, Sir, how the Government came to know that those three officers were indispensable for those departments?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Ministers have their own knowledge of the officers serving under them, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I take it, Sir, that if the Government want that certain officers should be re-employed or their services should be extended, they need not refer to the head of department, under whom the officers are working, but can straight away do so?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes, Sir, it is so. Why should we refer?”

Import of paints and varnish oils into the Province.

* 23 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the total cost of paints and varnish oils imported into our Province—

(1) from other countries;

(2) from other Provinces;

(b) how many firms in our Province prepare paints and oils; and

(c) their share capital?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) (1) The total value of paints and varnish oils imported by sea during 1943-1944 was Rs. 2,37,323. No information is available for the subsequent period.

(2) No information is available regarding imports from other Provinces.

“(b) So far as the Government are aware, three factories are producing paints in this Province and they are:

(i) Jyothi Paint Works, Aminjikarai, Madras;

(ii) Sodhan Cottage Industries Association, Tenali; and

(iii) Kanakambika Paint and Varnish Industries, Bezvada.

“(c) All the three factories are private firms. They are worked on a small scale and no information is available about the capital invested in each.”

[3rd March 1948]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Are the Government satisfied that this Province contains many of the raw materials required for the manufacture of paints and varnish oils? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ If so, what steps the Government propose to take if private capital is not forthcoming to start the industry? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ The Government are prepared to finance and also if necessary help by contributing a part of the share capital if private firms are forthcoming to start the manufacture of paints in this Province.”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1948-49.

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Mr. President, I thank you, Sir, for having given me the first opportunity to make my speech on the budget. The budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister is very well conceived and is written in a poetic vein and I congratulate the Finance Minister on the excellence of his speech. At this stage, we have also to say good-bye to Dr. Dodwell who has been our Finance Secretary for the last six years and who has been responsible for preparing six budgets and giving us the budget memoranda which we really enjoyed very much and a study of which has been very useful to us. Sir, in the first few years of the old Congress Ministry, we had occasion to study the memoranda prepared by Mr. Jones who was then our Finance Secretary and the present memoranda keep up the quality of his predecessor's, and we wish Dr. Dodwell a happy and prosperous life in his retirement.

“ Sir, having said this much with regard to the merits of the budget, I should like to submit that one point about which we have to congratulate ourselves is the extension of prohibition throughout the whole Province as from October 1948 and thereby we have fulfilled the expectations of Mahatma Gandhi and the Ministry has also received congratulations from His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari, the present Governor of West Bengal. No doubt, the ideal has been achieved, but we have to see that the ideal is put into effective practice.

“ Sir, I cannot conceal the fact that in some of the districts the working of prohibition is not at all effective. In my own district I have to say that there are several hills surrounding small towns and there during nights, arrack is manufactured and sold in secret at midnight. It is really very difficult to check and control this illicit distillation, especially when they do it at an untimely hour and in an inaccessible spot. The Government have put the Excise department officers to be in charge of prohibition in my district. There is friction between the officers of the Excise department and the public workers. The public workers accuse

[3rd March 1948] [Sri B. Bhima Rao]

the Excise officers of inefficiency and the Excise officers complain against the public workers, and so there are complaints in between. Thus illicit distillation is going on unchecked. It must be put down with a stern and strong hand. My own opinion is that we must do away with the officers of the Excise department.

“ I do not think, Sir, it is an open secret and it is not a thing which I mention in the House for the first time. These officers of the Excise department have their *mamools*. A lawyer friend of mine in Bellary has a son who is an Excise Sub-Inspector. Once I put the question to him: ‘ what is your salary? ’ He said: ‘ My salary is Rs. 60 and my *mamul* is Rs. 600.’ That is the peculiarity of the department.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I hope the hon. Member is not bringing trouble to that officer! ”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Well, Sir, he is now in another department. (Laughter). It is a well-known fact, Sir, that Bellary has got its own *mamul* and it is Rs. 1,000. Aboni has its own *mamul*. It is an open secret and this practice prevails throughout the Province. If you entrust this work of prohibition to officers of that department it is certainly not for the public good. We must provide suitable employment for them in some other department. We cannot expect them to do their duties efficiently in the Prohibition department. Of course some of them are very good officers. In my public life I have come across individual officers who are very good people. They go to the hills at midnight to detect and they are sometimes attacked by the people who manufacture illicit arrack. They have braved all the risks and done their duty. Still, Sir, somehow or other the public have a feeling that by employing these people the evil could not be put down. I am only mentioning this to show that we must take some more active steps to put prohibition into practice and make it effective and please the spirit of Mahatmaji. With these few words I shall close this topic and go to some other topics on which I have to speak. We have to attend to the practical side of enforcing prohibition in an effective manner.

“ I shall now come to the next point on which I wish to address the House and it is about the rural areas. Sir, the rural areas are not at all well-served. No doubt the budget is a splendid one. But the same complaint obtains in the villages, namely: ‘ We are not at all well-attended to.’ That is the complaint that you hear when you go to the villages in your constituencies. In my district, Sir, there are several villages in which there is no well for the supply of drinking water. During 1937-38 when the Congress Ministry took up office, the then Premier, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, set apart Rs. 15 lakhs for providing drinking water to the villages. We got an equal contribution from the Central Government. In all we had some Rs. 30 lakhs and my district was getting Rs. 30 thousand from the funds of the Central Government and Rs. 30 thousand from the Provincial Government. In all we had Rs. 60 thousand per year and we prepared a list of the villages

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [3rd March 1948]

according to priority. Immediately afterwards the war broke out and we could not get proper machinery—human machinery as well as the requisite mechanical machinery—to provide the wells in the villages for the supply of drinking water. Every year this sum of Rs. 60,000 lapsed and was given back to the Government. In all the periodical conferences which I used to attend I asked the Collector as to why this amount was not spent and he used to say: 'We cannot get contractors. We cannot work independently and we have not got the agency.' So, Sir, for nearly eight years all the amounts that had been advanced to my district lapsed. We have again been having this Government for the last two years. I do not think we have done any better. No doubt in the budget we have got Rs. 1 crore. This year for the Firka Development Scheme, we got Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 50,000 for providing water-supply to the villages and Rs. 50,000 for the construction of the roads leading from the villages to the main roads. The complaint was that the sums were received too late to give effect to these measures. Of course they have been doing their best and they are expediting things but it is impossible to spend this Rs. 1 lakh before the 31st of March 1948. As has been pointed out in the budget memorandum and also in the budget speech the proper machinery, both human and mechanical to provide the wells is not available. In many villages there are streams which run about three furlongs away from the villages. If we can have a well sunk there and provide pipes for the supply of water to the villages it would be better. I have seen such schemes adopted in the Mysore State. They sink wells in the streams and cover them and then take the water from the wells by means of pipes for being supplied to the villagers. I think that such a system could be employed in our districts also. But it seems impossible as we have not got the agency in many villages. In one village which the Hon. the Minister for Public Health visited recently the villagers presented a memorandum and in that they stated that they would contribute the entire cost for providing water-supply for that village. The stream there is only half a mile away from the village. But the agency to construct the well and to lay the pipes, and to get the pipes and thus provide protected water-supply to the village is wanting. So, Sir, there is no use providing Rs. 1 crore in the budget. It must be spent. They must create the machinery. They must create the agency to spend this amount that has been set apart for the supply of drinking water to villages. If you look at the budget memorandum that has been supplied to us every year and also this year you will find that we give back about Rs. 12 lakhs or Rs. 8 lakhs as the unspent balance of the amount that has been allotted for the sinking of wells in the rural areas. This aspect of the question must be attended to very energetically and a scheme should be adopted to give practical effect to the theoretical schemes that we put forward in the budget.

"Another aspect of the rural improvement scheme is to have a decent number of medical practitioners there. There are many cases of villages which can contribute one-half of the cost of a dispensary or a hospital. There are several villages or small towns

[3rd March 1948] [Sri B. Bhima Rao]

which have given us Rs. 25 thousand each. There are five towns in the Bellary district in which some generous donors have announced a donation of Rs. 25,000 for the construction of dispensaries and maternity wards and so forth. This was nearly a year ago. In one village, namely Kauthalam, which the Hon. Minister for Public Health visited, the London Mission authorities have constructed a maternity ward, because the ex-Surgeon-General, Mr. Huban, said: 'Go on with the construction, I shall see that the amount is paid.' Within four months they constructed a maternity ward and the Government have been kind enough to give half of the expenditure, namely, Rs. 8,300. Now there are villages in which people are coming forward to give a donation of Rs. 25,000. If their plan is approved you can have five maternity wards or small hospitals in these towns. It was nearly a year ago that these donations were announced by the donors but the Government have not been able to make up their minds to approve of the plans and accept the donations. Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Health is a sweet and amiable gentleman. He is agreeable, the present Surgeon-General is also agreeable . . .

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Minister would like you to repeat it once again." (Laughter.)

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"I shall repeat it once again, Sir. The Hon. Minister for Public Health is a sweet and amiable gentleman. (Hear, hear.) And he was pleased to make a visit to the out-of-the-way village, Kauthalam, some 18 miles from Adoni town on the 1st January this year amidst so many other engagements which he had at the time and he was pleased to state that a building might be constructed at that place. Sir, there is a circumlocutory procedure in the Secretariat. This plan which I gave him at the time, it appears, has to go to the Public Works Department and so many others. But when the ex-Surgeon-General was there he approved of the plan and said outright: 'You go on with the construction of this and I shall see that the half grant is paid.'"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sympathy for the Kanara Province!"

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Quite justified."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"I will come to that later on. What I am submitting is this, Sir. Individually every one is in favour of it but collectively it would appear that not only the Minister for Public Health but the Hon. Ministers for Public Works, Finance and also some other Ministers will have to sit together and adopt these plans. But they have not done it.

"Of course every Saturday I see in the papers that one Minister goes north, one Minister goes north-west and the other Minister goes south-west and another Minister to the south. And they cannot go to the east because there is the Bay of Bengal. (Laughter.) What I say is this, Sir. They must sit together. I am only saying this in a friendly spirit. I am saying these things

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [3rd March 1948]

because the donors are persuading me to see that the Government accept their donations and complete the constructions. Her Excellency, Lady Nye, came to Bellary and laid the foundation on the 10th January 1947 and the building has not yet been taken up because the plan has not been approved by the Government. I may state what practice is obtaining in the Mysore State. I had the privilege of accompanying the ex-Diwan, Sir Mirza Ismail, in several districts of Mysore. There they used to announce contributions like Rs. 25,000, etc., for maternity wards and hospitals and give the amount to him then and there. He used to tell the officers, the Superintending Engineers and others accompanying him on the tour that the building should be constructed within six months. And again when after six months we went to those places we found that the building was there. They have published a booklet containing the photos of those buildings which were constructed within six months.

11-45
a.m.

It is by personal contact, and by meeting once in a week and settling the details that things can be expedited, and not by adopting the circumambulatory procedure of sending files from one Secretary to another, obtaining remarks of the Secretaries, and then coming to a decision at the end of a year or two. I think this practice should be abandoned, and the practice adopted by the Interim Ministers in the Central Government in 1946 of meeting every day or every week and settle their programme, should be followed. In this connection, Sir, I want to say one thing which the ex-Premier, Mr. Prakasam, was telling me. It is this. On the day he took up office as Revenue Minister in the first Congress Ministry, he ordered on a particular file containing some representation 'put up urgently in the course of one or two weeks'. He was telling me that that file came to him on the day the Congress Ministry resigned office—that is after 2 years and 3 months! Sir, such a practice should not be adopted. I plead with the Ministry that some kind of expeditious despatch with regard to such subjects should be adopted. Donations may be received and hospitals in needy areas may be constructed, especially when there are public donations and contributions for this purpose. (Interruption by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi.) The donors are anxious that the buildings should be constructed in the course of six months or at least a year. They are anxious that the work should begin within a reasonable time. That is the point which I want to mention to you."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Perhaps it is one of the advantages of an autocratic rule."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" It is not the autocratic rule, Sir. I ask the Ministers concerned in the matter to sit together for two or three hours once in a week and. . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is more a matter for the Secretaries and not Ministers."

3rd March 1948]

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Ministers as well as Secretaries may sit together. (Dr. V. K. John : 'Minister have to order the Secretaries.') These donations have been announced in January 1947. We are now in March 1948. Even after 15 months, no effect has been given to these donations. That is the complaint of the donors which I am representing to you. I only wish that Government see that things are done with the utmost expedition.

" There are one or two subjects with regard to villages. We find that there are no medical practitioners in most of the villages. I do not know if I am trespassing on the domain of the Health Minister as well as the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University. My suggestion to Government is that the cadre of licenciates must be revived. You cannot have all full fledged doctors—what the Bhore Committee's report calls as basic doctors—with degrees of M.B. & C.M., to go and settle in the villages. They would have spent at least Rs. 10,000 by the time they finish their medical course. No doubt the Bhore Committee has put the expenditure at Rs. 5,000. I think that estimate is not at all quite correct. I have got practical examples of people coming and studying here. For three students of my family in Madras I am sending monthly Rs. 350. For studies in professional colleges, like the medical college, the expenditure must be considerably more, and with the number of expeditions that a candidate has to make for completing his medical course, I am sure the target will be something like Rs. 10,000. After spending so much money and spending 5, 6 or 7 years, if they are asked to go and serve in the villages, they will never go. My suggestion to Government is that the cadre of L.M.P. should be revived, so that the students may have education suited to rural parts, and they may also go and settle there. No doubt my suggestion is against the majority recommendation of the Bhore Committee. You must make it a condition that these people serve in the rural parts. I find from the Bhore Committee's report, in Russia, medical education is given free. In England the Goodenough Committee recommended that one-third of the students selected on merits should be given free medical education. I submit that those who give a guarantee that they will serve in rural areas should be given free medical education of this elementary type, that is the old L.M.P. course, and they must be asked to serve in rural areas. As in former years, completion of the S.S.L.C. may be considered as quite sufficient for their admission to the medical schools. Otherwise, it will be impossible to get any medical aid in rural areas. I have seen several cases in rural areas being treated for malaria, and when these cases were brought to the Wellesley Sanatorium in Bellary, it was found that they were cases of tuberculosis. These people were brought to Bellary at the very last stage and they expired in the course of a month or two. In villages it is not possible to find out whether it is a case of malaria or it is one heading towards tuberculosis. I think the majority recommendation of the Bhore Committee is that they must complete the M.B.B.S. course. In regard to medical profession, Sir, if we want to give aid to rural areas, I think there must

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [3rd March 1948]

be two classes of medical practitioners, one with not very high qualifications serving in the rural areas and the other with superior qualifications serving in towns. I make this suggestion to Government for their consideration. Otherwise, it will be difficult to get medical aid in rural areas. There is another aspect which I find in regard to rural areas difficult to accomplish. As I said before, people in the rural areas want protected water-supply. They are prepared to foot the entire bill. Mention has been made of agricultural engineers in the Budget speech. I do not find any evidence of these engineers so far as my district is concerned. There are several villages in which there is no protected water-supply. The people are prepared to provide the necessary money by way of contributions. They want a well to be sunk and water provided by means of taps to the villages. This aspect of the question has to be considered by the Ministry.

"While I am dealing with medical relief to rural areas, I am also tempted to advert to medical relief in towns, especially in Rayalaseema districts. I have studied the Budget Memorandum as well as the detailed Budget estimates several times to find out what has been provided for Rayalaseema districts. I found none."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Sir, we are awaiting the report of the Development Commissioner for Rayalaseema."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"The report has not come before the Budget was prepared. I do not know whether this will be included in the next year's Budget, or by then we will be in this House or in some other House, or in Andhra Desa. It is a very convenient thing not to get the report before the Budget was prepared. Anyhow, so far as Rayalaseema districts are concerned, I do not find any relief has been given. It has only provided for the opening of a College at Cuddapah."

"As regards medical relief and construction of hospitals, details have been set out on page 123 of the Budget Memorandum under Demand XXXV. I find provision made for the Trichinopoly Hospital, Tuticorin Hospital, Calicut Hospital, General Hospital, Madras, King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, and Reconstruction of Headquarters Hospital, Ellore. It is a very sad thing that no provision is made for facilities to hospitals in Bellary. I think the Hon. Minister for Public Health and also the Hon. the Finance Minister know that the Wellesley Sanatorium in Bellary, which was giving treatment for prisoners suffering from tuberculosis has now extended its activities to other people also who are suffering from tuberculosis. From 1st October 1947, admission is given to civil patients also. Two or three days back when I was there I found there was absolutely no water-supply for that Sanatorium till 8 o'clock in the morning. It has to depend on the vagaries of the municipal water-supply. I have made a complaint about this to the Hon. Minister for Public Health. In a sanatorium like this, if there is no water till 8 o'clock in the morning, what are the

[3rd March 1948] [Sri B. Bhima Rao]

patients to do? Again, Sir, water-supply is cut off at about 9-30 a.m. Therefore, Sir, it must have independent water-supply of its own."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Every hospital must have independent water-supply of its own?"

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"You have got facilities there. The Hon. Minister was in the Alipuram Jail. There is one well. . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The Hon. Minister is only provoking more comments from you."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"Alipuram Jail gets its supply from a well. Wellesley Sanatorium is not distant from Alipuram Jail. You can connect this Sanatorium water-supply to the Alipuram Jail water-supply pipes. Otherwise, instead of being a sanatorium, it will be an institution spreading tuberculosis in the area."

"One other thing I want to bring to the notice of this House, Sir. The Nurses of the Sanatorium have no quarters. They have to come from a distance of one or two miles. It is really a great feat. (Interruption by the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.) You know the Rayalaseema sun, Sir. At 12 noon these nurses have to leave the sanatorium and come back at 2 or 3 p.m. under the shade of their tiny umbrellas. In fact many times they engage jukkas for the journey. They made representations to Government that conveyance allowance may be given to them, because it is very difficult for them to come there and go back."

"We had a meeting at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium and to my regret our request for conveyance allowance was rejected by Govern-^{noon.}ment. Though an estimate was sent for the construction of nurses' quarters some five months ago, still, nothing has been done. Because the Sanatorium is about two miles away from the town, necessary quarters for nurses must be provided and it must be given immediate attention. I think it is an absolute necessity and Government should provide money for this purpose at least in the Supplementary Demand. It is inhuman to ask those young ladies to go in the hot sun at 12 noon to their residences after they finish their work in the morning. I think we must show better consideration to these people and because the matter cannot be put off till the next budget, provision should be made in the Supplemental Budget for this purpose because it is an absolute necessity."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Do you not approve of this Budget?"

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"I am only suggesting some improvements. I have got two more points and then I will finish. I do not want to be diverted from my thoughts."

"Sir, the next subject that I want to speak of is about the separation of the judicial and executive functions. I do not know why Government should not have come to a definite conclusion on the report which was published during the time of the predecessor to the present Minister for Law and Order. It is not at all difficult

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [3rd March 1948]

to come to definite conclusions. It is not necessary to have only a token grant of Rs. 100 for that purpose. After all, Sir, it will cost the Government about three to four lakhs. Sir, there is a feeling and there is a talk in the air that this Ministry is interfering with judicial functions. I do not know whether it is founded on any basis. Somehow or other, such a public opinion is being created which must be avoided and put a stop to. After all, the expenditure that is to be incurred on this is only a drop in the ocean of the huge expenditure that you are incurring during the course of the year. I think the demand for a token grant of Rs. 100 is wrong and that the estimated cost of three or four lakhs may be provided in the Supplemental Budget for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

"Sir, another point I wish to refer is about the popular opinion which is being given vent to in the Press about some kind of communalism which is prevailing in our Province. There is one kind of communalism in Northern India and it is another kind of communalism that is prevailing in this Province. I wish also to state that Mahatma Gandhi was against this kind of communalism and any kind of communalism. I appeal to the Ministry to give a lie to this communalism in our Province and to this kind of criticism which is levelled against the Ministry. As you know, Sir, last year admission to colleges and other educational institutions were made on communal basis. That was not the case till last year. In the previous years, admission to colleges were made on merit to the extent of twenty per cent and the Bhore Committee to which I have already referred recommended 30 per cent."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Thirty-three and one-third per cent."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"I stand corrected. Therefore, one-third of the admissions are to be made on the ground of sheer merit. That is the unanimous recommendation of the Bhore Committee, to which the Hon. the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University is a party. Therefore, at least with regard to one-third of the admissions, they must be made on the basis of merit only and with regard to the other two-thirds, the admissions may be based on communal considerations provided that does not in any way trench upon the admissions to be made on the basis of merit. Sir, that is the majority report of the Bhore Committee though there were others who said that it should not be the case. I think, Sir, that in Russia and in England, admissions are made purely on merit."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"There are no backward communities in England."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"I do not know whether there are backward communities in England or not but there are backward classes everywhere. Even in England, there are poor backward people just as in India. Therefore, I submit that the Government should follow the Bhore Committee's recommendation that one-third of the admissions to the Colleges should be made on the basis

[3rd March 1948] [Sri B. Bhima Rao]

of merit, pure and simple. Let this communalism be abjured in educational institutions and also in the appointments to high judicial offices. There is one more point."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I thought you have already closed!"

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"There is one point and that is about the question of civil defence. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Law, says that we are panicky. In September last year, the Minister for Industries and the Hon. the Premier made a lightning journey from Bezwada to Bellary. They visited the frontiers of the Kistna river and the Tungabhadra river in the course of thirty-six or forty-eight hours."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"With or without thunder."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"No thunder, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I do not want the hon. Member to be interrupted."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"At that time, the Hon. the Premier, who is not here just now, gave expression that we are panicky. That was the word used by him. I am saying that I am not at all panicky. I am of a philosophical temperament. But, I only want to say about an incident in my village Nadichagi on the borders of the Tungabhadra. The village was once surrounded at 7 a.m. in the morning. Five Vaisya houses were surrounded. If any person went there to give some protection, he was shot at. That was the position. There are now five people in Adoni hospital who are in a very serious condition. We have got no arms. That is the real secret of it. No doubt licences have been given but we cannot get arms and the special Police that were posted there were few and far between and they were not at all effective. On the other side, the military is being trained and drilled and one can understand how we are caught on this side. We have no jeeps, we have no vans and we are in a pitiable plight. I can solemnly affirm that there is absolutely no goonda in my district to go to the other side of the river and create any disturbances. My only request to the Minister for Law is to provide this Corps that has been recently created with necessary arms and also with motor vehicles at least one for each five or ten miles so that the guards may effectively travel in those areas and afford necessary protection and confidence to the people in those border areas. We want to see that there is no panic but we want arms immediately. With this request I close my speech."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, from the indulgence which you have so kindly shown to my friend, Mr. Bhima Rao, I think it is always an advantage to be a speaker on the first day of the Budget debate."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"There was cause for the indulgence because the hon. Member did not get up first."

[3rd March 1948]

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, this is the only occasion when members of this House have an opportunity of expressing their views on questions of general policy besides drawing the pointed attention to some items of expenditure of the kind which Mr. Bhima Rao has referred in the course of his speech. Sir, I am also of the same opinion as Mr. Bhima Rao when he pleaded that the time has come that we should shed communalism of every kind. We have been preaching from house-tops that communalism is bad in a democratic, secular State like India, and that there can be no place for distinction either based on caste or creed. If we get into a mood of introspection, how many of us can say or sincerely confess that we have no communism of any kind even in the innermost recesses of our hearts. (Interruption.) I mean all of us; I do not mean any particular group of people. So, Sir, people in power should set an example by their actions that there is no communalism in this Province. I feel, Sir, the time has come that anything savouring of communalism should not be encouraged in any form or shape in any place. The time has come when the Government should remove the Communal Government Order altogether from—I am not saying the Statute Book—from their executive orders. All hon. Members are aware that a resolution was moved in the Constituent Assembly by one Mr. Diwakar where he suggested that even a reference to community or caste in Government records should be avoided. Of course, Sir, it will take some time for us to adopt such a radical course though I am one of those who feel that nothing will happen if we adopt it immediately. As a first step, I feel Government should set an example by removing the Communal Government Order and select persons on merit without any distinction of caste or creed. I find, Sir, that the Government of Bihar have taken such a step. It may be that certain safeguards have been provided for certain communities and we are not yet in full possession of the details.

12-15 p.m. “ Another disquieting feature, Sir, that has been receiving some emphasis nowadays is the differences based on language. A tearing propaganda has been carried on by some Andhra friends in favour of linguistic provinces. I feel that there is no need for such a propaganda at all. The point at issue now is,—whatever may be my individual opinion,—not so much whether provinces should be formed on linguistic basis as what should be boundaries of these provinces. And this has led to a certain amount of heat in the discussions in certain assemblies held in this City. But may I beg of my friends, both the Andhras and the Tamilians to remember, that no purpose is served by indulging in these animosities and unnecessary discussions, which may perhaps sometimes lead from words to blows, and that will not certainly bring any the nearer the ideal for which each group is working for.

“ Sir, another disquieting feature which I am pained to learn is this: Unfortunately in our province, constituted as it is, most of the high posts especially in the technical departments are held by members speaking one language. When such people, because they are highly qualified to carry out certain works, are posted to

[3rd March 1948] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

hold places of responsibility, I understand, Sir, the subordinate staff belonging to a community which speaks another language is not giving that kind of support or discipline necessary to carry out the works undertaken in that area. Let me take, for instance, the Tungabhadra Project. All the officers who are working in that Project are my Tamilian friends who are really competent to build the dam, to dig canals and to make the waters flow along those canals. But if people of the locality who do not speak Tamil and who happen to become employed under them in any capacity, either skilled or unskilled, are induced not to give that assistance that is necessary for those higher officers to carry out the work, who are the sufferers? It is we who have to be benefitted by the Project. I wish, Sir, that this spirit of indiscipline is not engendered by the protagonists of either Andhra or Tamil province, for I believe it would ultimately not be in the interests of those who create that trouble. So I plead with my friends, both Tamilians and Andhras: ‘Do not carry the agitation over the boundaries to that absurd extent as to lead to violence.’ When feelings are roused, we sometimes forget ourselves that we were once votaries of truth and non-violence. Let that not happen.

“ Sir, criticisms have been levelled in the other House on the present Ministry for their acts of commission and omission. But in this House, we are not concerned with those criticisms which emanated owing to some differences in the Party constituting the Ministry. We would like to look at things from an impartial point of view and offer such criticisms as we think are necessary more in a spirit of helpfulness than with the object of hindering the Government from carrying out their duties.

“ Sir, the Hon. Minister for Law is not here. I do not know if the Government are aware of all kinds of rumours that have been set afloat, rumours that have been damaging the reputation of this Ministry regarding inordinate delay in filling up the six vacancies in the High Court, all kinds of rumours which do no credit to any Government, much less to this Ministry. Why should there be delay? (Interruption.) I am only speaking as a friend. The Government may take note of what I say if they like. If they do not want, they may leave it. Why should the litigant public be forced to wait for the administration of law when about six posts of Judges are not filled up? Is not the litigant public the sufferer on that account? From a common man's point of view, I speak. The Ministry may say that it is the prerogative of His Excellency the Governor. I concede that there are many prerogatives of His Excellency the Governor which are really the prerogatives of the Ministry. They cannot deny it. I am only pointing this out as a friend. Why give room to all kinds of rumours and speculations which are sometimes very uncharitable to my hon. Friends sitting on the Treasury Benches. Why give room? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Sir, does the hon. Member believe those rumours? ”

[3rd March 1948]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, we are not believing those rumours. Because we do not believe them we tell you here, friends. I am sorry the Hon. Finance Minister does not understand the spirit in which I am offering the criticism."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Why then should he mention them? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the Hon. Minister may reply at the end. It is not necessary to interrupt him now. "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Then, Sir, there is another suggestion. The Public Service Commission, which recruits officers of gazetted and non-gazetted ranks who have to man the various services in this province and on whose efficiency and devotion depend the future of the province, should be reconstituted. There will be a vacancy shortly. In saying anything about the Commission I do not throw any aspersions on the members that are now there. They are all honourable men. I should like that the Commission should be strengthened by the addition of a person of academic qualifications. I want a person of academic qualifications because this Commission, for recruiting personnel, holds written and *viva voce* examinations and tries to understand the capacity of each young man who appears before it, his outlook on life, his general knowledge, whether he is fit for the job for which he is to be recruited and so on. I would beg of the Ministry to strengthen the Public Service Commission by the addition of a man with academic qualifications so that it may have as much assistance as possible in selecting the best persons. But what is happening now? Even the membership of the Public Service Commission is treated as a reward for services rendered elsewhere and vacancies are filled up with superannuated persons or with persons at the end of their career. I would like that to be avoided. I would like, in the interests of administration, in the interests of the good name of this Ministry, to suggest to them that they shall see that these bodies of a high order are manned by people with broad vision and are really competent to advise the Government.

" Then, Sir, leaving these general questions, I come to Finance. I wish the Hon. the Finance Minister will be as fortunate during 1948-49 as he has been during 1947-48. It is, what I may call, fortuitous circumstance which have helped him to present the Revised Estimate for 1947-48 as he has done. The revenue went up from Rs. 48 crores to Rs. 55 crores and then though the expenditure under Revenue Account went up by Rs. 11 crores, the net outlay on State Trading Schemes and expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes went down by eight crores, which enabled him not to draw upon the Reserve Fund but, on the other hand, to put Rs. 2½ crores into the Reserve Fund. Of course, he has explained the various circumstances which have helped him. My purpose in drawing attention to this fact is this: you will notice that from Rs. 36 crores to Rs. 47 crores, the expenditure on Revenue Account has grown. Naturally the same amount of Rs. 47 crores is provided for the next year 1948-49. I would like

[3rd March 1948] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

him to examine more carefully again whether the expenditure during 1948-49 will be justified on the same scale as during 1947-48.

" Sir, I happen to be a member of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee. We have been sending up proposals as soon as we come to certain decisions even in cases where those decisions are tentative. So far, we have made proposals which, if carried out, would lead to effective savings. But I am afraid there appears to be a tendency to ignore the suggestions made by the Committee. For example, let me take a small instance: We suggested that holiday on penultimate Saturday should be abolished. We are in a kind of emergency now. There may not be a war but we are at war with so many things. We suggested that the penultimate Saturday need not be a holiday. During the war so many holidays were cut off. But for some reason, the Government did not accept our recommendation.

" Then, Sir, we suggested the reorganization of certain departments of Government. What I find is that those very departments have received increased grants when we were doubtful of their utility as they are being run. These very departments have received the imprimatur and support of the Government for the work that is being done and we find increased grants are provided. I feel it is not fair to any Committee. It is not fair for the Government to sanction increased grants to a department in which the Committee, after taking a lot of trouble to examine its working, has found certain retrenchment necessary. I wish they had informed the Committee that they did not agree with their view of retrenchment. We feel that if a Committee has been entrusted with some work, the Government should wait till that Committee completes that work. If they want certain problems to be considered urgently, the Committee may be asked to give preference to them. But when the Committee is considering the working of departments and suggesting retrenchment, the Government have increased the expenditure on the staff relating to those departments. I would like the hon. Members of this House to know that, that is why the expenditure has gone up from Rs. 36 crores to Rs. 47 crores in 1947-48 and the same amount is provided for 1948-49. It may be, the Hon. Finance Minister is not aware or does not realize what amount of work it involves to go into the working of each department. And when the Committee submits some recommendation, instead of showing it the courtesy of sending back their recommendation and asking it to reconsider it from any other point of view, increased provision is made for that department which that Committee did not consider it necessary to provide."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not know if it is necessary for the hon. Member to make these general remarks. He may refer to particular instances."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, in all the departments there is increased expenditure while we have been suggesting retrenchment."

[3rd March 1948]

MR. PRESIDENT:—“ In what department, Government would like to know.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, take the question of State Trading Schemes. We have made a suggestion in respect of the Agriculture Department that it should be relieved of all State trading and we have given reasons for it, with which, I am sure, the Department of Agriculture itself agrees. The officers of the department have become more traders than demonstrators. But here again six crores is put down for State Trading Schemes by the Agriculture Department.

“ Sir, I now come to the Agriculture Department proper. On page 11, paragraph 11, of the Hon. Finance Minister's speech with reference to the Grow More Food Campaign it is stated: ‘ The target is an increased annual production of 6.5 lakhs of tons of rice by the end of 1951-52 The cost of the part of the Five-year Plan relating to the Agricultural Department is estimated at about Rs. 3 crores non-recurring and Rs. 6 crores a year recurring.’ I have tried to find out what this expenditure is and where it is in the Budget. All that is said is: ‘ It includes schemes relating to the supply of seeds, manure, iron and steel on a large scale, a comprehensive scheme for the control of pests and diseases of crops’ and so on. The point, that I am coming to, is that the Agriculture Department has fifty tractors at present and the Government have recently sanctioned the immediate purchase of fifty more tractors to meet the increased demand for land reclamation. When the Hon. Minister for Agriculture moved a Supplementary Estimate in December last, I begged him to tell me and I wrote to him a letter also later on, requesting him to tell me where these tractors, these oil engines and these pumps are and how they are distributed. I wanted the public to know where they are. Because from the Thompson's Disposals Committee we have purchased articles worth Rs. 22,67,000 while Rs. 5 lakhs have been spent for petrol-driven pumps from the United States of America We want to know, where they are being made use of, whether there is greater demand for them and if so, how best to meet it. So far, I do not know why the Government have not given this piece of information which will interest the ryot as well as a layman like me. Now about fifty tractors are going to be bought and large number of pump-sets we are going to buy. It may be the cost of all these which are included in these six crores recurring and three crores non-recurring.

“ And then, Sir, I come to Basic Education. In December last, I requested the Hon. Minister for Education to tell me what the Government's idea of Basic Education is and how it differs from the education at present imparted in the elementary schools. Sir, I innocently also quoted the opinion of His Excellency Sri Rajagopalachari when he was the Prime Minister of this Province. When the Hon. Minister replied it looked as though I was absent from the House, though generally I am not absent on such occasions. The Hon. Minister has stated that the Hon. Sri Rajagopalachari is a great admirer and supporter of his Basic Education. Sir,

3rd March 1948]

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

I do not know wherefrom he got this information. But we have to look into the records of the Secretariat. I have no access to them. I think, Sir, when Sri Rajagopalachari was Premier, there was a discussion on the subject and I think he did not accept the Wardha Scheme of Basic Education and preferred to continue the system of education that we had in this Province, because he found that most of the elements of the Wardha Scheme were found in our system. Unfortunately, Sir, I cannot lay my hands on the records. I only request the Hon. Minister to look into the records and see whether I am mistaken.

“ Sir, I only pose a few questions for want of time.

“ In what respects, does this Basic Education which this Government want to develop, differ from the existing education with a vocational bias accepted by the Government so far back as 1938?

“ Are the basic schools started in addition to the existing elementary schools or in place of the existing elementary schools?

“ Are certain areas to be declared as Basic Education areas? I understand that there is a proposal to create belt areas on the lines of belt areas in ‘ prohibition ’ areas: is it a fact that no non-basic school can exist in those areas? ”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“ Is it prohibited area or prohibition area. (Laughter.) ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, I mean prohibition area. Is it a fact that a rule has been made that no non-basic school can exist in the Basic Education area?

“ Are the two Basic Education officers superimposed on the existing officers and is their jurisdiction co-extensive?

“ Are all basic schools to be under Government management? Because I see in the Budget that in the Coimbatore belt area, they are taking over fifteen existing schools.

“ Are all basic schools as they are converted, if conversion is necessary, to be taken over by the Government and run directly by them?

“ Sir, I would like the Hon. Minister to tell me what is meant by conversion of existing training schools into basic training schools and how this training in a basic training school differs from the training in the existing training school.

“ What for is the provision of ten lakhs for the construction of buildings for basic training schools? Cannot the existing training schools where the buildings exist, be utilized for training these basic school teachers?

“ It has been a problem for the Government to attract students to the training schools because of the low stipends given to them and the low emoluments they receive after they pass out of the

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [3rd March 1948]

training schools. May I know how the Hon. Minister for Education is going to attract students to these basic training schools? What baits and inducements is he going to offer them so that the basic training schools may be full of students for training?

"I want the Hon. Minister to educate us in all these matters. We take it, he is an expert in basic education. Let him educate us. We are perfectly willing to profit by his elucidation. Sir, two systems of education are now going on: the ordinary universal compulsory elementary education on the one side and the basic education on the other side. Are they to run on parallel lines or will they ever meet and when and where is the meeting to take place? What is the policy of the Government? (An hon. Member: 'May be, one will cut the other')."

"That may also happen. Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister said that they spent about 39 lakhs of rupees for Compulsory Primary Education in rural areas in 1947-48. In 1948-49, it is estimated that the amount would be Rs. 59 lakhs. I would like to know whether this difference of twenty lakhs between the two years, is the provision for compulsory education or for basic education. Because the speech of the Hon. Minister for Finance is very silent on the point."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Significant."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Yes, Sir, significantly, silent. I fear that the universal compulsory primary education will receive a setback on account of basic education. By all means, let the Government try this experiment and spend money. (An hon. Member: 'Why experiment?'). Experiment, because you have not shown what a real basic school is. Why should we stop further expansion of elementary education in rural areas awaiting the results of this basic education? The Hon. Finance Minister has cleverly omitted to mention whether this twenty lakhs is for basic education or for the furtherance of elementary education."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Evidently, he has left it to be answered by his colleague."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"But it is easy to miss the point, Sir."

"I now come to the question of grants for building and equipment for schools and colleges. I have been, time and again, enunciating my pet theory that the building grants should be given out of loan funds. I hope that matter is engaging the attention of the Government. I understand that the Government have informed schools which applied for grants that the maximum grant that they can expect for buildings is Rs. 30,000 even on estimates which may go beyond one lakh of rupees. Sir, I do not want the Government to give more than Rs. 30,000. But I would like the Government to give the balance as a loan to be repaid in the course of forty or fifty years. Otherwise, when a scheme costs a lakh of rupees and if the Government gives only Rs. 30,000, it

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [3rd March 1948]

will be practically impossible for the scheme to come to fruition. The Government, while they need not increase their commitments in regard to free grants, may give the balance as loan to enable the institutions to utilize the grants. In the same way, for colleges, I am told, the maximum is Rs. 50,000. How is it possible with Rs. 50,000 to put up buildings for a college? I would request the Government to consider the desirability of assisting managements, good managements, with loans to the extent of their portion of the cost, the loans being wiped off in the course of forty or fifty years.

"Now I come to denominational schools. I have been pleading 12.5 p.m. that the communal Government Order should go. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, thinks that even denominational schools should exist for some time. Whatever others may say, should we continue to have these denominational schools? The Government have enunciated the policy that they are against denominational schools. At the same time they say that the existing separate schools may be continued for the next five years, but without any commitment after that period. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister 'why retain them for the next five years; why not abolish them altogether now? Let us show by practical methods that we are really non-communal. Let us not yield to communalism in any shape or form.'

"My hon. Friend says that in primary schools and secondary standards, the regional language will be the medium of instruction. May I beg of him to use the words 'mother tongue' instead of 'regional language'? Even the Hon. Minister of the Central Government has stated yesterday that in the primary and secondary stages, instruction shall be given in the mother tongue. If there are a large number of pupils speaking one particular mother tongue, let the Government make provision for that language. Then the need for the existence of denominational schools will cease to exist.

"The Government seem to be agreeable for the provision of religious instruction. I thought, Sir, that in a secular State the Government will not be a party for the propagation of particular religious principles. Does it mean that the State should provide the necessary funds? Even the Ecclesiastical Department will cease to exist from March 1948. But the religious teachers in these denominational schools will continue for five years more. Why should we continue these schools and provide religious instruction? The decision of the Hon. Minister for Education involves fundamental issues. Why should we not say that we do not want any more these denominational schools? All schools should be thrown open to everybody irrespective of caste or creed or even colour. Everybody should be at liberty to take advantage of the provision made by the State. I wish to suggest that such a declaration would be more helpful in fighting the spirit of

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

[3rd March 1948]

communalism than our merely speaking on the platform. Otherwise when it comes to action, we do not give practical effect to what we preach. Why lay ourselves open to that charge?

"I now come to my hon. Friend, the Minister for Industries

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"What is the implication? Are not the other Ministers his friends too?"

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I wish he had given a little more attention to the backward districts like ours. On a previous occasion I pointed out how in starting the polytechnic institutes, the districts from which I come had been forgotten altogether. There is no polytechnic institute in any of the Rayalaseema districts. I expected my hon. Friend the Minister for Industries to convert at least one of the existing industrial schools into a polytechnic institute. I do not want him to start a separate polytechnic institute, but to convert an ordinary industrial school which is properly equipped into a polytechnic institute. I have been urging the Hon. Minister to take up this question so that when various industries are started in course of time, there may be necessary technical personnel for our industries. I have been pleading that, in regard to the industrial development of the backward tracts like my districts, mere promises of assistance will not be of any avail. As the Hon. Minister said regarding the paint and varnish industries, it must be real help for it is very difficult to raise the capital required for the industries for which there is scope in our districts. Unless the Government give a helping hand and liberally help these industries, no industry will come up in my districts.

"I am grateful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, for providing a large number of irrigation schemes for my districts. I find that some works are provided under head 18. I hope I am correct in thinking that those provided under head 18 will be financed out of revenues and those provided under head 68 are to be financed out of capital outlay or from borrowed funds. That is perhaps the distinction between the heads 18 and 68. I hope it does not mean that the works put under head 68 will be allocated a secondary place in the estimates or will not be taken up at all, unless they bring in good revenue. I wish all the works had been put under head 18. I think works to the extent of Rs. 75 lakhs are to be financed out of revenues. I hope I am correct. Out of the large amount the Government are going to spend on the grow-more-food schemes, I would beg of the Hon. Minister to take up in our districts many small and useful irrigation works. I hope the Hon. Minister will also give concrete shape to the proposal mentioned by the Hon. Minister for Finance, to revive the Tank Restoration Divisions, in order that some tanks may be restored. The Hon. Ministers for Public Works and Finance will remember that at one time there was a Tank Restoration Division in our districts and it was disbanded. The first division that should be restored is the one that was disbanded lately. I am very

3rd March 1948] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

grateful that a sum of Rs. 37 lakhs has been provided for minor irrigation works. I hope the Government will see that all these Rs. 37 lakhs are utilized by the Collectors without surrendering the amount as they sometimes did in connexion with the grants given for sinking wells. If the Collectors are not in a position to carry out these minor irrigation works, the scheme which the Hon. Minister for Public Works is thinking of for the Chingleput district of handing over the works to the Public Works Department, may be thought of. All that is necessary is that the works must be carried out and the people benefitted.

"I have nothing more to say except to assure my hon. Friends on the Treasury Benches that we are making our remarks without any bias. So long as we are free from bias, it does not matter what the world thinks of us. That is the only spirit in which I have offered my criticisms on basic education. I wish to ask the Hon. Minister to make people understand what the purpose of basic education is, so that we may get utmost support from the public."

SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—"Mr. President, Sir, the budget proposals that are placed before the House by the Hon. Finance Minister are satisfactory. The prohibition policy which the present Government have been consistently following, has been conducive to the benefit of the lowest class of people like the agricultural labourers, factory workers and other manual labourers. I come from the northernmost district in the Province, the Vizagapatam district. It is still a wet district. People have been asking us when prohibition will be introduced in our district. They have been saying that they have been paying the sales-tax which is mainly intended for the introduction of prohibition. Myself and the Members from my district are now able to tell our people that in October this year our district will be dry. Perhaps the greatest achievement of our Government is the complete introduction of prohibition in the whole province, and the Government have to be congratulated on this great achievement. The present Governor of West Bengal, His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachariyar has complimented our Finance Minister on having made our province dry.

"Any civilized Government must find enough of food for its people. During the last four or five years, controls and rationing have done great harm to the people. The health of people has been greatly affected, not only that, morality of people also has been greatly impaired. Due to the persistent attempts of Mahatma Gandhi, partial or gradual decontrol was introduced by the Central Government and the Provincial Government are following suit. I come from a deficit district. Let me request the Government to see that decontrol is complete. It is only then that people would be benefitted. Otherwise the evils that are attendant upon rationing and control will be doing some harm to some people in the province. It is not right that a section or portion of people

[Sri P. Veerabhadraswami] [3rd March 1948]

of our province should suffer while others enjoy. I do not mean to say that we are anxious that others also should undergo the privations we are undergoing. Let it be universal, let it be common to the whole province. The Central Government have been giving us food grains. They are also giving subsidies. Our Provincial Government can build up large stocks. There are sufficient godown accommodation in various parts of the deficit districts. During lean months foodgrains can be supplied from the godowns. I will be very glad if the present Government will follow this policy and take all the necessary steps to tackle the problem well. The amount that is set apart for minor irrigation works—about Rs. 37 lakhs—is not sufficient. By about the middle of April the zamindari legislation will be complete and the Government will be obliged to take up the repairs of a lot of water sources that have been neglected for a number of years. For instance I tell you, Sir, that during my recent tour in my district I went to a village in the Salur taluk and there is a big lake there which would supply water for about four to five thousand acres of land.

1 p.m.

“If Government can spend about Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000, about 4,000 or 5,000 acres can be brought under cultivation. There are a number of big tanks like this requiring repairs and Government can take up the work of repairing these tanks and make a beginning at least in the next fasli year. The first great thing that Government can do is to undertake the repair of these works and have them effected as early as possible, so that large acres of land which are lying now uncultivated may be made cultivable and such areas may be made self-sufficient by increasing the yield per acre, though not now, at least in a few years.

“The policy of our Provincial Government regarding cloth control has undergone very welcome changes and practically all the control on cloth has been taken away. The prices of handloom cloths have been considerably reduced and mill cloths are also available, though they are not as satisfactory as they ought to be.

“With regard to Khadi production, I would urge on the present Government that more steps ought to be taken to make the villagers khadi-minded. Government could invite these people and impress upon them that cloths of coarse counts will not be manufactured in the Province. People who are accustomed to wear coarse cloth can really take up to spinning and make it a real success, which perhaps will bet a fitting memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

“For a long time the villagers in this Presidency have been neglected. It is only now that Congress Government are taking steps to improve them. Village communications have to be greatly improved and protected and adequate good water-supply assured to them. The provision made in the budget for rural development is a welcome feature of the budget. Whenever people in villages come forward and agree to place labour free at the disposal of Government for works of this kind and also furnish raw materials

3rd March 1948] [Sri P. Veerabhadraswami]

for such works, Government must give their share of the grant and begin the work. For instance people in a certain village in the Vizagapatam district are ready to give labour for a particular work and also the necessary gravel and the only thing they want the Government to supply them is metal. The work may cost about Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. What the villagers want is only about Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 from Government. When villagers like this approach the Government, they ought to see that such works are carried out as early as possible, so that people of other villages may follow suit.

“Permit me, Sir, Mr. President, to point out the serious defects in the administration of the King George Hospital at Vizagapatam. The patients who are allowed in that hospital have to pay Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 for a bed. I do not know what circumstances prevail in other hospitals in the Province. Because that hospital is in my district it has come to my notice. So I would request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to rectify this defect because it is a serious blot on our administration.

“Sir, Government have been able to make a good provision of more than eight crores of rupees for education and they have given the assurance that every taluk will have a high school and every district a college.

“A large provision has been made for police force. Although it appears to be large, it is essential that our police force should be strengthened. It is a welcome sign that Government are taking steps to strengthen the police force.

“I congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister for the fine budget proposals which he has presented.”

SRI P. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“అధ్యక్ష, ఆర్థిక శాఖ మంత్రిగారు నాకు భవంతులగుటచేత బడ్జెటును తయారుచేయుటలో భవంతుల బడ్జెటువలె లాబు (deficit) లేకుండా తయారుచేశారు. అంతేకాకుండా కొత్త పన్నులు (taxes) వేయవలసిన అవసరంలేకుండానే ఈ సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటును తయారుచేయగలిగారు. దీనికి కారణం ఇదివరకే sales tax పన్నును హెచ్చుచేసి విద్యకులవద్దనుంచే కాక consumers (భోజనదారులు) వద్దనుంచికూడా sales tax ను వసూలుచేయడంవలనారు కాబట్టేవని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“చాలా జిల్లాలలో అవసరదార్థాలను decontrol చేసినను ఇంకా రేషనింగ్ ఉద్యోగస్తుల జీతములకోసమే 116 లక్షల రూపాయల డబ్బు ఖర్చుపెడుతున్నారు. ఈవిధంగా 116 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఎందుకు ఖర్చుపెట్టాలి నాకు. అర్థంకావడం లేదు.

“ఇప్పుడు రాష్ట్రంలో ఉన్న చాలా కొరత (deficit) జిల్లాలలో రేషనింగు తీసివేసారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈవిధంగాచేసికూడా ఈ deficit జిల్లాలలో ఉన్నటువంటి (urban areas) పట్టణ ప్రాంతాలలో రేషనింగ్ తీసివేయలేదు. ఈవిధంగా ఎందుకు చేయవలసినవచ్చిందో కారణం తెలియటంలేదు. ఉదాహరణగా మువిశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాను గురించి మనవిచేస్తాను. మువిశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో 38 లక్షల జనాభావున్నది ఉన్నది.

[Sri P. Venkatachalamaji] [3rd March 1948]

అందుచే జిల్లాలో పెక్ పట్టణాల్లో కొంతమందికి విశ్రాంతి, విజయనగరం మొదలైనవి వంటి పట్టణాల్లో ఏ రెండు లక్షలూ, రెండున్నర లక్షలూ జనాభా ఉంటుంది. జిల్లాలో ఉండేటటువంటి 35, 36 లక్షలమంది ప్రజలకు రేషనింగు తీసివేయడం చాలా బ్రతకటానికి అవకాశముంది. ఈ పట్టణాల్లో ఉండేటటువంటి రెండు లక్షలూ, రెండు లక్షల యాభైవేలమందికి తిండి కొరకక వానపథ్యాలని నేను అనుకోను.

“ఈ rationing ను urban areas (పట్టణ ప్రాంతాల) లో కూడా తీసివేయ వలసినదని మొత్తం 27 వ శాసనసభ మా విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం జిల్లాలోని 15 మంది (Legislators) సభ్యులకు సంతకముబు చేసి ఒక మెమోరాండంను మన Food Minister (అహారశాఖ మంత్రి) గారికి ఇచ్చివాము. మా జిల్లాలోని పట్టణ ప్రాంతాలలో కూడా వంటి తీసివేయవలసినదిగా వారికి represent చేసినాము. అందుకు వారు మా విశ్రాంతి పట్టణం జిల్లాలో పండే ధార్యంతో మీరు సరిపెట్టుకోగలిగితే, కోటా ఇప్పించమని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ఆమెగని పరిస్థితులలో ఉండగలిగినట్లయితే మీ జిల్లాలో రేషనింగు తీసి వేయవలసినదిగా వారికి తీసి ఆధ్వర్యం వారికి చేయవలసి తెలియచారు. అలాగ కాకుండా మా కోటాను మా కిప్పించినట్లయితే మా విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం జిల్లాలో మేము అహారపదార్థాలను సర్దుబాటుచేసుకోగలమని మేము చెప్పాము. దానికి వారు బదులుగా కోటా ఇవ్వటానికి వీలులేదు; మీ జిల్లాలో పండినదానితో మీరు సరిపెట్టుకోగలరని మీరు మామియ్యి అప్రకారము మీ జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగారు ప్రాసినట్లయితే మీ జిల్లాలోని urban areas (పట్టణ ప్రాంతాల) లో కూడా రేషనింగు తీసివేయవలసినదిగా వారు తెలియచారు.

“ఇదివరకు యుద్ధము జరిగినప్పుడు కూడా యుద్ధానంతరం ఇంతకాలంవరకు కృత్యములు ఉండడంకాని, రేషనింగు ఉండడంకాని జరిగియుండలేదు. కాని ఇప్పుడు యుద్ధం ముగిసి ముగారు రి సంతకముగా లయినప్పటికీ ఈ కంట్రీలో, రేషనింగు ఉండడానికి కారణం ఏమిటో నాకు తెలియకుండా ఉన్నది.

“గవర్నమెంటుకు వచ్చేటటువంటి పంట లెక్కలు పారపాటుగాను, తక్కువ గాను వస్తున్నాయని నా అభిప్రాయము. లేకపోతే ప్రభుత్వమువారు రేషనింగును ఇంకా ఎందుకు తీసివేయకులేవో అర్థంకావడంలేదు. ఒక సంగతి మరచిపోరాదు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వం ఈ పట్టణాల్లో ఉండేటటువంటివారికి ఇస్తున్న 8 అవున్సుల డియ్యంతోనే ఎవ్వరూ కాబట్టి పుచ్చేస్తూనే రేషనింగుల కా? వారు ఎవరో విధంగా వారికి కావలసిన లియ్యన్ని కొనుక్కుంటున్నారు. దీని అర్థము ఏమిటి? అందుచే ఈ urban areas లో వంటి తీసివేయవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈ విధంగాచేసి ఇప్పుడు ఈ రేషనింగు స్టాఫ్ వారి జీతాలకై ఖర్చుచేయవలసిన 116 లక్షల రూపాయలలోనుంచి ఒక కోటి రూపాయలవైపు ఇరిగేషన్ ప్రాజెక్టు (irrigation projects) ల కింద ఖర్చుచేసినట్లయితే అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి (Grow More Food) కి ఎక్కువ అవకాశాలుంటాయని నా అభిప్రాయము.

“విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం జిల్లాలో నాడవలసిన వంతెన (bridge) నిర్మించటానికిగాను బడ్జెటులో బడ్జెట్ provide చేసినందుకు అధిక మంత్రిగారికి అభినందనములు. ఈ వంతెన కన్నకూడా నెల్లిమర్ల వంతెన (bridge) కట్టుట చాలా ముఖ్య అవసరము. దీనికికూడా గవర్నమెంటువారు supplementary budget లో ఏ లక్ష రూపాయలూ provide చేస్తే బాగుంటుందని నా అభిప్రాయము.

“ఫిబ్రవరి 25 వ తారీకు “హిందూ” (Hindu) పత్రికలో లక్ష రూపాయలకు ఒక deep X-Ray, 30 వేల రూపాయలకు ఒక deep X-Ray యంత్రాలు ఇక్కడ install చేస్తున్నట్లు వార్త (news) ఉన్నది. ఇదివరలో విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం ఆసు

[3rd March 1948] [Sri P. Venkatachalamaji]

పత్రికలో radium treatment ఉంటుందేమి. యుద్ధం వచ్చే ముందు ఆ radium treatment machine ను ఎక్కడికో తీసుకొని వెళ్లిపోయారు. ఇప్పుడు deep X-Ray examination నేర్చుకోటానికి విద్యార్థులు విశ్రాంతిపట్టణంనుంచి ఇక్కడకు వచ్చి ఇక్కడ నెల, 15 రోజులూ, నెల రోజులూ ఇండి ఆది నేర్చుకొని వెళ్లవలసిన స్థానం. దీనివల్ల విద్యార్థులకు వ్యయ ప్రయాణాలు గలుగుచున్నవి. కాబట్టి ఈ రెండు deep X-Ray యంత్రములూ ఒకదానిని విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం ఆసుపత్రిలో provide చేయవలసినదని నేను ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుతున్నాను. (Interruption.)

“ఇప్పుడు మధురలో ఒక deep X-Ray ఉన్నది. మద్రాసులో 3 ఉన్నాయి. కాబట్టి ఒకదానిని మా విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం King George Hospital కు ఇప్పించగోస్తాను.

“1942 వ సంవత్సరంలో నా మిత్రులు వీరభద్రస్వామిగారు Chairman గా ఉన్నప్పుడు మా విజయనగరం మునిసిపాలిటీలో స్కూల్ ప్రాథమిక విద్యకుగాను (compulsory elementary education) ఎడ్యుకేషన్ టాక్స్ (education tax) వేరారు. ఈ education tax వసూలుచేస్తున్నారేకాని ఏ మునిసిపాలిటీలోనూ compulsory education నమిస్తున్నట్లు కనిపించడంలేదు.

“ప్రస్తుతం హైదరాబాదు సంస్థాన సరిహద్దులలో జరుగుతున్న పోరాటాలను, దోపిడీలను తగ్గించడానికిగాను మన సుద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు Home Guards ను కొన్ని జిల్లాలలో ఏర్పాటుచేస్తూ మా విశ్రాంతిపట్టణం జిల్లాలో ఇటువంటి Home Guards ను ఏర్పాటుచేయవలసిన అవసరములేదనే ఉద్దేశంతో మా జిల్లాలో ఈ training ఇప్పించడంలేదు. మా జిల్లాలోకూడా ఇటువంటి training అవసరమని వెంటనే అక్కడకూడా Home Guards ను ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసినదని నా అభిప్రాయము.

“మునిసిపాలిటీలలో ఉండే Highway road లను ఇప్పుడు మునిసిపాలిటీవారు గాని, Highways department వారుగాని మరమ్మత్తు చేయించుటలేదు. మునిసిపాలిటీవారిని ఆడిగితే Highways department వారు చేయించాలని, Highways department వారిని ఆడిగితే మునిసిపాలిటీవారు చేయించాలని అంటుండమువల్ల ఈ రోడ్లు మరమ్మత్తులు లేకుండా ఉన్నవి. కాబట్టి ఈ రోడ్లను తిరిగి మునిసిపాలిటీలకు hand over చేస్తే బాగుంటుందనిచెప్పి నా అభిప్రాయము.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“Mr. President, Sir . . .” 1-15 p.m.

“I offer my hearty congratulations to the Hon. Minister for Finance on his presentation of the first annual budget of this Province after the national emancipation into freedom. A balanced budget with a nominal surplus at a time when a heavy loss of revenue due to extension of Prohibition is expected and with provision for schemes of all round development does every credit to the Finance Minister and the Government. We were committed to the policy of Prohibition and when we learn that from October 2nd the whole Province will go dry, we feel that it will be an occasion over which Madras should feel rightly proud of achieving the dearest and best-cherished of the objectives of the Great Father of the Nation. May his spirit rejoice.

“Although the budgetary position of the Province has been presented to be satisfactory, it is regrettable to bear in mind the fact that the lot of the common man in the land is no whit better

[Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao] [3rd March 1948]

than it was before. Food position is still represented to be grave, scarcity of essentials of life persists, inflation is still on the wing and day by day the living index is mounting higher and higher and his meagre resources fail to procure him the bare necessities to keep his body and soul together. Independence could not bring him the long expected succour or any hope of early redemption from a seemingly perpetual state of want and misery and consequently there exists among the people at large an intense and widespread feeling of bitter disappointment and disgust, that the popular Government did not fulfil the pledges and promises held out to them continuously during the past several decades of agitation. They feel that the conditions in the land are now no better, if not worse than what they were before the advent of Independence. Frequent strikes both of the labour and the educated classes are nothing but an external manifestation of the deep-seated discontent with the present outlook on men and matters. Several villages have no supply of drinking water worth the name and protected water-supply to them is still a fond dream. We say, we have not enough sets to attend to this need. The poor agriculturist clamours for manure and cake. We say, we have not enough of it and drive him to the blackmarket. The poor public servant craves for more allowances to cope with rising prices. We say, we have not enough funds to go round or proper machinery to check the soaring prices. The poor teacher groans under perpetual and proverbial poverty and we offer him nothing but the stone for the bread. The list can be multiplied but the Government can only pity them and pity themselves for their inability to help them. But for the last piece of the most humane service rendered by our Bapujee to the common man by exercising his personal influence for the decontrolling of foodstuffs, the plight of the common man would have continued to be miserable for how long we would not have known.

"The food situation in the Province is said to be still grave and threatening according to the arithmetics of the Government. It will even be so on the paper especially as long as profiteering and blackmarketing go unchallenged and so long as they are not brought to book by stern methods. Bapujee was ever expressing his admiration for the ingenuity of South Indians which helps them to help themselves in the worst conditions of food scarcity. That Madras need never be afraid of starvation was his firm belief and let us place our faith in that belief. Instead of growing panicky, let us strive to utilize that ingenuity we are credited with to avert the threatening food crisis with courage, confidence and above all with a sense of emergency. The Government at the same time would do well to repose implicit confidence in the advice given us and adopt immediate measures of complete decontrol in the whole Province lifting the ban on transport from district to district and from province to province with the permission of the Central Government. The plea that such a free and unrestricted passage of food materials from surplus areas to deficit areas will make both the areas starve is untenable and against common experience. Half-way measures of decontrol are unhelpful and positively harmful

3rd March 1948] [Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao]

and should be abandoned even at this stage with least hesitation. It is indeed futile under the present conditions for the Government to think of controlling part or whole of the food supply in the Province. Our past experience should tell us that Government would be unable to check blackmarketing and corruption and would only increase the miseries of the law-abiding common man. Experience of decontrol of sugar must give necessary confidence that complete decontrol and unrestricted transport are the only remedies to avert any crisis due to shortage. At the same time, the Government should also adopt measures of augmenting production of supplementary foodstuffs by a vigorous practical drive of Grow More Food campaign. The crisis may develop from July to September and we should try to augment our food resources by all available means of supply. I would even suggest in this connexion the Government offering a graded scale of bonus to increased production by ryots over and above an average five-year production figure of an individual ryot. Above all, the real fillip lies in expediting with frantic speed the major irrigation schemes on hand, the Tungabhadra Project, the Ramapadasagar Scheme, the Kistna-Pennar Project, etc., together with all possible minor irrigation works in view of the fundamental fact, viz., that the ryot is not constitutionally lazy but his best efforts lose in the sand due to lack of enough water.

"The Hon. Minister for Food, Government of India, was kind enough to render us an all-out assistance to avert the crisis.

"Now that the report of the Economic Planning Committee has been published, a comprehensive scheme of agricultural development as envisaged in the recommendations of the Committee should have been initiated in our Province as part of planning for economic regeneration of the Province. Organizing of non-profit making bodies like the co-operatives to replace the middlemen between the agriculturist and the consumers pilot schemes for experimenting with co-operative farming under state auspices and organization and development of co-operative colonies in unoccupied cultivable waste lands, starting of co-operative finance corporation to assist and finance agriculture and such allied organizations should be started as early as possible to ensure rapid progress in agricultural development. The budget provides for the organization of co-operative housing societies in urban areas but such societies are as much necessary in rural areas where the vast devastations by fire, almost common every year, can be effectively checked. In this connexion I may invite the attention of the Government to the inordinate delay made by them in their decision regarding the producer societies in the Circar districts which are now simply kept defunct with their huge capital of over 2 crores lying idle in the banks for the past one year without any utility to the community or the shareholders. It is a matter for deep regret that while co-operative movement is receiving unmeasured support in all civilized nations in the West and while the Government of India have given unequivocal directive for its encouragement, its healthful activity is cribbed and cabined in this regard in this Province, on

[Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao] [3rd March 1948]

account of Governmental indecision. I request the Government to expedite their decision as further delay entails gradual frittering away of people's moneys collected by the Government. In this connexion I may be allowed to suggest that they may be utilized for the distribution of house building materials like iron and steel, cement, agricultural implements, etc., among many other requisites which are now in great demand.

"On the provision in the budget towards augmenting the police force in the Province, we should only express our regret for finding ourselves compelled to undertake this measure on account of the extraordinary conditions prevailing in the land soon after the advent of freedom. Increasing police force as a first step and later resorting to punitive legislation to quell disorders among our own people, cannot be a pleasant undertaking on the part of any Government, much less on the part of the Government, the members of which are wedded to the creed of non-violence and universal love. We can only hope that the need for such measures would disappear and perfect peace and harmony would soon be established in the land. The Government should also try to inculcate a spirit of service in the policemen to the public, and to the Government in view of the fact that the common man usually looks upon them as proverbial mischief mongers with notorious corruption, acting more as bullies than as real friends of the people. To obviate this defect, right men with necessary educational qualifications should be recruited to the rank and file of the force. At the same time it should be borne in mind that no police force as it is at present paid, can be expected either to be sincere and above board or really efficient in the discharge of their duty. They must be given their living wage and their heads kept above water just as any other public servant is kept . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—"Sir, they must be made as contented in the matter of emoluments as the postmen, for instance, if we really want them to be the bulwarks of the people as in the countries of the West.

"The expenditure on education includes for the first time provision for making an earnest beginning for the reorganization of education on the lines of the bifurcation scheme and for starting basic education schools in the Province. Education is not receiving the necessary attention it deserves as occupying the foremost place of importance in national reconstruction. The policy of continuing the existing form of cheap education as well as our outlook on the content and methods of education, must be changed. That cheap education is worse than bad education and more dangerous than no education is the opinion of a great educationist of India. It is still left in the hands of private managements and local boards who

[3rd March 1948] [Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao]

run them as commercial concerns trading in the sacred name of educational institutions. Under local boards, these institutions are still worse having a greater part to play in local politics than in education proper. The condition of an elementary school with its scanty accommodation and miserably poor equipment is deplorable and pathetic children, the real wealth of the nation, have to be paid greater attention and should be taken proper care of if we are out to build a healthy and prosperous nation. Education is the sacred trust of the State and unless Government take up the entire management and direction of our educational institutions, at least until the secondary school stage, no appreciable good can be achieved and national progress remains a myth. A comprehensive five-year plan for the liquidation of illiteracy is urgently necessary as we are now committed to adult suffrage. Model residential schools must be provided as they go a long way to develop a spirit of fraternity among the future generation rooting out communalism and culminating in real nationhood. Steps should be taken to provide our schools with modern means of education through radio sets and equipment of visual education. There is not much room in our curriculum for the development of character, discipline and such other virtues that go a long way to combat the existing evils. Physical education exists in our schools more as a sham and mockery to satisfy the inspectorate for getting grants than to fulfil its important role in national regeneration. It is in fact the lack of provision in our schools for such organization and extra curricular activities in the real and proper sense that induced our young folk to join in the innumerable extraneous organizations of doubtful value as revealed in our recent national tragic experience. Lack of discipline in schools has become so notorious that almost all the organizations, political, social and communal that we find outside, can also be found inside our schools in active form. Expenditure on inspectorate can be curtailed by replacing the annual inspection of secondary schools by biennial inspections. About two years ago, the Government issued a comprehensive questionnaire on the re-organization of education and nothing has been heard about the action of the Government on the answers received. Regarding the question of finance for the Government to take up education wholesale, it should be borne in mind that the local bodies and the private managements are no more than middlemen in the field of education and the sooner they are eliminated the better for the nation. Fewer efficient schools will be better and more conducive to better education than a large number of inefficient schools upon which moneys are poured as in sand. The results, as can be seen at present, are positively harmful and mischievous.

"It is gratifying to note from the budget that provision is made for improvement of existing facilities in the Madras Stanley and Andhra Medical Colleges with a view to provide 100 seats in each with corresponding improvements to the hospitals attached. At the same time, it cannot but be regretted that due to exigencies, the proposed colleges at Madura and Guntur have to be closed down. In the case of the Andhra Medical College and the King

[Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao] [3rd March 1948]

George Hospital, the existing facilities are too inadequate even for the present strength of students. Though sanction of funds for improvements was made and plans for carrying them out were ready, yet priority consideration and official red tape have solidly stood in the way of actual execution in time. It is not enough if arrangements exist on paper for satisfying public opinion. The machinery for the completion of work must be set up and driven with sufficient speed if the vast Andhra area is really to be served by a single college and the hospital.

"Till recently, the recruitment to Civil Assistant Surgeon Cadre was made against an age-limit of 32. Now it is proposed to be lowered to 30 with the result that several medical graduates who have already put in varying periods of temporary service are precluded from appearing for the selection. In the King George Hospital, actually 22 people now on temporary service are affected. This is unjust. The new age-limit should not affect people with service but should only be applied to new entrants in future. I am sure Government will rectify this injustice at an early date so as to give an opportunity to the existing incumbents to find permanent places in the service.

"Moreover, in the near future, several experts on the teaching side are retiring on superannuation and we have not enough post-graduates to fill up the vacancies and to keep the teaching side alive and efficient. So there is a strong case for retaining all the post-graduates now in temporary cadre and for giving chance for qualified men from outside to enter permanent service.

"Deep X-ray therapy is an urgent and long-felt need in the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam. The plan has to be urgently ordered for and installed during this year so that the final year students of the Andhra Medical College need not go all the way to Madras for a brief training at great expense and inconvenience.

"Of course, there is always the question of so much to do and so little done in the sphere of public administration but we have to leave no stone unturned to provide those minimum and crying amenities to the people if we place before us the ideal of making life in free India worth living and worthy of our great traditions and culture

"Regarding water-supply to Vizagapatam town, the military have asked the municipality to sign an agreement and the same has been signed and sent to the military authorities. I do not know what the Government are going to do about it and at what stage the matter is. Summer is fast approaching and people will suffer much for want of water if no proper arrangements are made for supplying water. Further on the 14th and the 15th, the Prime Minister is visiting Vizagapatam and I wish that early action is taken to avert water scarcity. I request Government to take up the matter with the Central Government and see that the water works are handed over to the municipality.

[Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao] [3rd March 1948]

"Regarding the dairy farm, I must thank Government for having taken it and for handing over the dairy farm to the department concerned. I request that steps may be taken to supply milk soon.

"Regarding scavengers, Government have sanctioned one crore of rupees for house building and for other amenities to Harijans. We have 5,000 scavengers in Vizagapatam town and there is no housing scheme for them up to now. I request Government to go into the matter and do the needful.

"Regarding the extension of Vizagapatam town, we have passed a resolution and sent the same to Government and I hope Government will accept it and give grants for roads so that we can extend the town limits. Government, I am sure, realize that the population of the town in 1942 was 70,000 but it has now swollen to 1,20,000 and it is ever on the increase now that the ship-building yard is there and the University and the military are there. I request Government to accept the limits of the town and give the municipality grants for roads. I thank you, Sir, for the time that you have so kindly given me."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—“అధ్యక్ష, స్వరాజ్య సిద్ధ అయిన పిదప దేశమంతా శాంతి ఏచికలు పరివ్యాప్తమై అందరూ ఆనంద దోలికలూ సుఖిస్తామని ఆశించాము. 1917 వ సంవత్సరము నుండి ఆనేతుపీఠాచల పరివ్యాప్తమై నటు వాటి స్వాతంత్ర్య సమరములలో ప్రవేశించిన మాబోంట్లము ఉత్తమమైనటువంటి, పవి ప్రమేయమువంటి, సస్య శ్యామలమైనటువంటి భారత దేశ చిత్రాన్ని మా కంటియందుకు వెల్లువొని దేశనేవ చేశాము. 2-45 P.m.

“దేశంలోని ప్రతి వ్యక్తి స్వేచ్ఛగా, తాను సస్యశ్యామలమైన సుఖంగా తోచేటట్లు చూడాలని, 144 వ section, లాటిచార్జీ, తుపాకీమదమ, పోలీసు దౌష్ట్యం ప్రభావనీపించాలని ఎల్ల గొల్లి చాటాము. స్వాతంత్ర్య సిద్ధికాగానే ఈ దుర్గయాలు తొలగిపోతాయని ఎన్నో కలలు మాత్రము కన్నాము. ఆ ఆశలు నేడు నిరాశలైనవి. ము “అధ్యక్ష, ఆ రోజులలో (1930, 1932, 1940, 1942 వ సంవత్సర జీలలో) మీరు, మేము, ఈ నాడు పంతులుగా ఉన్న మన మిత్రులు అందరము రాజకీయ బంధిలమై కారాగారములలో ప్రస్తుతున్నపుడు ఏమని భావించామో, మన జైళ్ల శాఖామాత్యులగు శ్రీ మాధవ మీనకాగారికి జ్ఞాపకము చేస్తాను. ఆనాడు ఈ కారాగృహాల నిన్నింటిని ప్రతి మానవులకు మానవ ప్రవృత్తిని కలుగజేసేటటువంటి పవిత్ర దేవాలయములుగా మార్పు చేయాలని, ఆటువంటి కార్య విధానాలను అనుసరించాలని గాలిలో మేడలు ఏమేమో కట్టాము. ఆ డోహసాధాలు నేడు కూలిపోయినాయి. గాలిమేడలలోనుంచి పాతాళలోకము లోనికి పడిపోయినాయి. మనము విలాటి చార్జీలను, ఏ తుపాకి మదమలను గర్హించామో ఆ లాటిలనే ఆ తుపాకి మదమలనే మనము కూడా మనబోటి రాజకీయ పాదులమీద విచ్చల విడిగా ప్రయోగిస్తున్నాము. మనలో రాజకీయ విభేదాలు ఉన్నవారిని మనం కారాగృహాలలో నిర్బంధించి మనము ఇదివరకు అనుభవించిన హింసలవంటి వాటికే వారినికూడా గురిచేయవలసినవచ్చినటువంటి దురదృష్ట విధి మనకు కలిగింది. ఇది చాలా అక్రమమైనటువంటి విషయమని ముఖ్యంగా కాంగ్రెస్ పథవ్యవహారికి చెప్పవలసి వచ్చినందుకు విచారించుచున్నాను.

[Sri A. Govindacharyulu] [3rd March 1948]

“మహాత్మా గాంధీ మరణానికి కారణమైన మౌన విశ్వాసానికి, అతని సరి
చిన మహామౌనత చర్యకు ఇక్కడ ఉన్న వారికి ఏ విధమైన సంబంధమైనా ఉన్నదా
అని అలోచించకుండా, నిజానిజములు గమనించకుండా, విచారణ చేయకుండా మన
ప్రభుత్వం కొంతమంది నిర్దోషులను కారాగారం ఖంభితులను చేసింది. మహాత్మాదే కనుక
నిజంగా గుండు చెబులకు గురి అయి, తప్పించుకొని మరణించకుండా జీవించి ఉండి
ఉంటే, ఆయన హంతకుని జీవితానికిమాదా బాధ్యత వహించి అతనిని కాపాడి ఉండే
వాడు. కాని ఈనాడు మనము ఆ కౌంటి స్వరూపుని వేరట, ఆ అహింసా వాదినేవేరట,
ఆ ప్రజామూర్తి వేరట సర్వా సర్వాలను గుర్తించకుండా మన పశులాన్ని నిర్దోషులపై
ప్రయోగించవలసిన దుస్థితి మనకు ఏర్పడింది. దీనికి ముఖ్య కారణం మనం నడుపు
తున్నామనుకునే ప్రభుత్వయంత్రం. మనను బ్రిటిష్ పితౄవము వదలినా, వారిచే నిర్దిష్ట
బడిన ఈ యంత్ర పితౄవము మనని వదలిపెట్టక పీడించి పిప్పిచేసి వేస్తోంది. మనము
ఈ యంత్రము జేతులలోనికి పోవలసివచ్చింది. మనము ఈనాడుకూడా మనలో రాజ
కీయవిభేదాలున్న వారిమీద ఆ బ్రిటిష్ యంత్ర పితౄవాన్ని, బ్రిటిష్ రాజనీతిని ప్రయో
గిస్తున్నాము. మనము చెప్పినట్లు యంత్రము నడువవలెను కాని, యంత్రము తన
ఇష్ట ప్రకారము నడువకూడదు. ఈ విధంగా ఈ యంత్రాన్ని ఈ రైలును యథే
చ్ఛగా నడపలేదే రైలు పట్టాలు తప్పు వచ్చు, దేశం ప్రజలు అపార కష్టానికి గురి కావ
లసి వస్తుందేమోననికూడా నేను భయపడుతున్నాను.

“ఈ పరిస్థితుల విషయమై కొన్ని సంగతులు మనవి చేస్తాను. ఒక సంఘాన్ని,
unlawful association గా ప్రకటించడంతో, ఆ సంఘం ఎటువంటి పనులు
చేస్తోంది, సంఘంలోని సభ్యులు ఎటువంటివారు అని పరిశీలించడం అతి ముఖ్యమైన
సముపరి విషయం. అంతేకాని రాత్రి ఒక సంఘాన్ని అక్రమ సంఘంగా ప్రకటించి
ఉపయం కాకపుర్రామే, నిర్దోషులను ఎన్నడూ ప్రభుత్వాన్ని ఎదిరించుటవంటివారిని,
బాధ్యతగల పెద్ద మనుష్యులను నిజానిజాలు గుర్తించకుండా, ఏ విధమైన విచారణ
జరపకుండా నిర్బంధించి కారాగారములకు తీసుకునిపోవడము ఏ బాధ్యతాయుత
ప్రభుత్వము, ముఖ్యంగా ప్రజా ప్రతినిధి ప్రభుత్వమైన కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రభుత్వము చేయ
వలసిన పని మార్తము కాదని నేను చెప్పటానికి చాలా విచారిస్తున్నాను. ఇది స్వక్రమ
మైన రాజనీతికాదు.

“ఈ సందర్భంలో జరిగిన కొన్ని అక్రమాలను గురించి ఉదాహరణంగా మనవి
చేస్తాను. నా జిల్లా ఆయన పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాకు చెందిన కొవ్వూరులో 60
సంవత్సరాల వయస్సుగల ఒక వృద్ధుని కారాగృహంలో ఖంభింపారు. కారణమేమి
అంటే ఆయన ఎప్పుడో ఒక రోజున R.S.S. (రాష్ట్రీయ సేవక సంఘం) వారి
సభకు అధ్యక్షత వహించినట్లు పోలీసువారి రికార్డులలో ఉన్నదట. ఆయనను నేను
1917 వ సంవత్సరంలో కాంగ్రెస్ లో చేరినప్పటినుంచి ఎదుగుచును. ఆయన కాం
గ్రెస్ లో వారి. మహాత్మాగాంధీగారి భక్తులలో పరమ భక్తుడు. కాంగ్రెస్ ను వాడులమని
చెప్పుకునే చాలామంది కన్న ఆయన నిజమైన కాంగ్రెస్ ను వాది. అతి ఉత్తముడు.
అటువంటి వయోవృద్ధుని ఆ గ్రామంలోని కిట్టనివారు చెప్పిన మాటలను ఆధారం చేసి
కొని పోలీసువారు నిర్బంధించి కారాగారంలో పెట్టారు. ఇది ఎంత అక్రమమైన
చర్యయో ప్రభుత్వమువారు గుర్తిస్తారని విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను.

“ఇంక నూ ఏలూరులో విద్యార్థులను leading lawyer లను జైల్లో ఉంచారు.
ఈ R.S.S. లో మెంబర్లుగా చేరినవారు ఈ సంఘము ముఖ్యంగా మత విభజనాన్ని
ఆకల్పి చేసుకొనే సంఘముగానే భావించేవారుగాని, ఇది ఒక రాజకీయ సంఘమని

[Sri A. Govindacharyulu] [3rd March 1948]

గాని, అందులో మహాత్మాగాంధీని హత్యచేయటానికి తలపెట్టే సంఘమని కాని ఎవ్వరూ
కలలోకూడా ఊహించి ఉండరు. ఈ విషయాలను వీరందరు జిల్లా కలెక్టరుకు, జిల్లా
పోలీసు అధికారులకు తెలియచేసినారు. ఎప్పుడైతే ఈ R.S.S. ను అక్రమ సంఘంగా
ప్రభుత్వంవారు నిషేధించారో వెంటనే వారు వారి సభ్యత్వాలకు రాజీనామాలుచేసారు.
వీరి విషయమై నిర్దోషులని జిల్లా అధికారులు ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలియజేసినట్లు నాకు
తెలుస్తోంది. నా constituency నుంచి ఇప్పటివరకు నాకు 16 registered cover
లు ఈ సందర్భంలో వచ్చివి కాబట్టి వీరిని వెంటనే ప్రభుత్వంవారు విడుదల చేయించ
వలసినదిగా వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఈ R.S.S. ను నిషేధించే సందర్భంలో కొంతమంది విద్యార్థులనుకూడా
నిర్బంధించినారని మనవి చేశాను. వీరిలో కొంతమంది ఈ నెల 15 వ తారీఖున
University examination కు వెళ్లవలసినవారు ఉన్నారు. వీరిని వెంటనే విడుదల
చేయకపోతే వారు పరీక్షకు హాజరవులేరు. ఇప్పుడు వారు పరీక్షకు వెళ్లకపోతే
September లో కూడా పరీక్షకు వెళ్లటకు అవకాశము లేదు. ఈ విషయముల
సన్నిహితుల నాకు వారి తల్లిదండ్రులు తెలియపరచినారు. వారు ఈ విషయాలను
ప్రభుత్వంవారికి వ్రాసుకొన్నట్లును, జిల్లా అధికారులు వారి విడుదల సిఫారసు చేసినారని
నాకు తెలియవచ్చింది. కనుక ప్రభుత్వంవారు వీరిని వెంటనే విడుదల చేయించవలసి
వదిగా వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ముఖ్యంగా ఒక్క విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను. మా ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో మహాత్మా
గాంధీకి అపచారము చేయదలచినవారు ఒక్కరూ లేరు. అటువంటి మానవ విశ్వాసము
కలియుగ రాక్షసుడు, కరమ పాతకుడు ఆంధ్రులలో ఎవ్వడు లేడని నేను నొక్కి
వక్కాణించి చెబుతున్నాను. (Hear, hear.)

“ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు అవలంబించుచున్న నిర్బంధ విధానమును గూర్చి చెబు
తాను. ఈ నిర్బంధ విధానంవలన ప్రజలలో అశాంతి, అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడుతున్నాయి కాని
ఏ విధంగాను ఉపయోగం జరుగడంలేదు. ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ప్రయోగిస్తున్న
లాఠీ చార్జీలవల్ల, తుపాకీ మదనలవల్ల నిర్దోషులను అకారణంగా నిర్బంధించడంవల్ల ప్రజ
లలో ప్రభుత్వంపట్ల సానుభూతి పోతూండని చెప్పవలసివచ్చినందుకు విచారిస్తున్నాను.
ఇటువంటి నిర్బంధ విధానాన్ని మనము ప్రభుత్వంలోనికి వచ్చేనాటివరకూ గర్హించినామని
మనము జ్ఞాపకంచేసుకోవడం అత్యవసరము. ఈ రోజున మన రాష్ట్రంలో పరిస్థితులు
ఎట్లున్నాయి, ఎవరు దోషులు, ఎవరు నిర్దోషులు అనే విషయాలను మనస్సునందుంచు
కొని ప్రవర్తించడం అత్యంత ముఖ్యమైన విషయం. ఉత్తర హిందూస్థానంలోని పరిస్థితు
లకు మన రాష్ట్రంలోని పరిస్థితులకు ఏ విధంగాను సంబంధములేదు. కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వం
ఒక ఆర్డరు ఇచ్చినదంటే, దాని ఫలితములు మన రాష్ట్రంలో ఏ విధంగా ఉంటాయో
చక్కగా యోచించాలి. అవసరమైతే ఈ పరిస్థితుల సన్నిహితుల కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వం
వారికి మనవి చేసుకోవాలి, కాని ఆ విధంగా కాకుండా ‘దున్నపోతు ఈ నిందంటే
అప్పు మాడను కట్టివేయ’ మన్న విధంగా ప్రవర్తించే ప్రభుత్వం ప్రజల సానుభూతి కోల్పో
తుందని, ప్రజలకు కాంగ్రెస్ పై అడరాధిమానాలు నడలి పోతాయని ప్రభుత్వానికి
మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ఈ సందర్భంలో జైల్లో సంగతిని మనవి చేస్తాను. ఈ విషయమై మొదటిలో
కొంత చెప్పాను. ఈ జైల్లో పరిపాలనా విధానం మారాలని మనము 1920 వ సంవ
వత్సరం నుంచి house-tops మీద నుంచి చెబుతున్నాము. మనము రాయవెల్లూరు

[Sri A. Govindacharyulu] [3rd March 1948]

సెంట్రల్ జైలులో, కోయంబత్తూరు, సెంట్రల్ జైలులో, తిరుచూరు జైలు గున్న గువాటిని ఒక్కొక్కదానిని ఒక్కొక్క పార్శ్వశామిక విభాగమున కేంద్రంగా చేయించి ఆత్యవసరము. ఇదే విధంగా జిల్లాలో ఉండే headquarters జైళ్లను పార్శ్వశామిక కేంద్రాలుగా చేయాలి. ఒక దానిలో యంత్ర పరిశ్రమ, ఇంకొక దానిలో నూలు పరిశ్రమ, మరొక దానిలో చెప్పల పరిశ్రమ, ఈ విధంగా వివిధ పరిశ్రమలను వివిధ కేంద్రాలలో స్థాపించడం ఆత్యంత ప్రాధాన్యమైన విషయం. ఈ విధమైన మార్పు లేమియు తీసుకొని రావలచినట్లు జైలులను మూచివల్లై నాకేమి గోచరించుట లేదు. ఈ విషయములలో తగినంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనివలసినదిగా నామిత్రులగు ముఖ్యమంత్రి గారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“మనము ఇప్పుడు 1872 వ సంవత్సరంలో ఉన్నామని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. అంటే మన ప్రభుత్వ శాఖల ఆఫీసులలో వస్తులు జరిగే విధానాలు ఆప్పటికే ఇప్పటికీ ఏమీ మారలేదని, మనమింకా ఆ బ్రిటిష్ రాజనీతిజ్ఞతనే అనుసరిస్తున్నామని తెలియపరుస్తున్నాను. ఇదివరకు 197 వ సంవత్సరంలో కాంగ్రెస్ వారు ప్రభుత్వములలోనికి వచ్చినప్పుడు బ్రిటిష్ ప్రభుత్వము ఉన్నది కాబట్టి ఈ విధానాలను మార్పుచేయటం సాధ్యం కాలేదని అనుకొనవచ్చును కాని ఈనాడు మనకు ఆయుధం అడ్డంకులు ఏమీలేవు. కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వం మనచేతులలో ఉంది, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వాలన్ని మన పాలన క్రిందే ఉన్నాయి. అటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో ఈ తుప్పు పట్టపోయిన పాత సిద్ధాంతాలనే పట్టుకు ప్రాచుర్యం నాకు అర్థంకావడంలేదు. ఈవారే ఒక ఆఫీసుకు మనము ఒక ఆర్డీ పంపిస్తే దానిమీద ఏ రెండు సంవత్సరముల తరువాతనో అర్థంకావడం వస్తుంది. ఎవరిని నిందించాలనే అభిప్రాయంతోనే నీ ఆరోపణలు చేయటంలేదు. యదార్థంగా ఈనాడు పరిస్థితులు ఏ విధంగాఉన్నాయో ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలియజేయటమే నా ఉద్దేశము. ఈ వారే ఒక కాగితాని సెక్రటేరియటుకు పంపించామంటే, ఆ కాగితం అసిస్టెంట్ సెక్రటరీ (Assistant Secretary) దగ్గరకు ఆక్కడనుంచి Superintendent దగ్గరకు, అక్కడనుంచి గుమాస్తా దగ్గరకు వెళుతుంది. ఆ గుమాస్తా దానిని referred to Health department అని endorse చేసి Health department కు పంపిస్తే ఆ డిపార్టుమెంటువారు ఆ కాగితం వారి డిపార్టుమెంటుకు చెందినదో లేదో జాగ్రత్తగా పరీక్షించి చివరకు మా డిపార్టుమెంటుకు సంబంధించినది కాదని, రెవిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటుకు చెందినదని తిరిగి పంపిస్తే మళ్ళీ ఈ కాగితాన్ని రెవిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటుకు పంపిస్తే ఎంత కాలానికీ ఆ కాగితంమీద ఆర్డర్లు పడతానా అనిపించుకోండి. ప్రభుత్వ departments ఈ విధంగా ఏ కాగితం ఏ డిపార్టుమెంటుకు చెందుతుందో నులభంగా తెలుసుకోలేని పరిస్థితులలో ఉన్నాయి. ఈ ప్రభుత్వ యంత్రము rotten అయిపోయింది. ఇంక జిల్లాల్లోని కలెక్టర్ల శాఖలూమీద మరీ ఘోరం. కాగితం ఆఫీసులోనికి వెళ్లితే దానిమీద disposal ఇవ్వడానికి సంవత్సరాలు పడుతుంది. కొన్ని సందర్భాలలో కాగితమే కనుపించదు. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులను చక్కజేయడానికి ప్రభుత్వం సర్వశక్తుల పాటుపడితేనే కాని లాభంలేదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“క్రింది ఉద్యోగస్తులపై పై ఉద్యోగస్తులు (officers) confidential sheets వ్రాసే practice ఒకటి ఉన్నది. ఈ system కూడా 1872 ప్రాంతంలో విర్సిడి నటువంటిదే. ఈ confidential sheets మీద, 1, 2, 3 అని వరుస సంఖ్యలు (Serial Nos.) వేయరు. ఈ system వలన గుమాస్తాలకు, ఇతర చిన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులకు చాలా అన్యాయాలు జరుగుతున్నాయి. పై అధికారుల ఆదేశాని మానాలు సంపాదించగలిగినటువంటి వారికి ప్రమాదకరమవుతున్నాయి కాని ఇతరులకు అన్యాయము జరుగు

3rd March 1948] [Sri A. Govindacharyulu]

తోంది. ఒక ఉద్యోగస్తుని confidential sheets లో officer చెడుగు రాయదలచి నపుడు ఆ సంగతిని ఆ ఉద్యోగస్తునికి తెలియజేయాలని ఉన్నది. కాని ఎవ్వరూ ఆ విధంగా చేయటంలేదు. ఏ గుమాస్తా పెనైనా కోపంవస్తే అతని భవిష్యత్తు నంతను officer లు పాడు చేసేస్తున్నారు. దీనివలన N.G.O. అకు చాలా అనీకారము జరుగుతోంది.

“Deputy Tahsildar లు మొదలైనటువంటి ఉద్యోగులను తీసుకోవడంలో జిల్లా కలెక్టరుకు discretionary powers ఉన్నాయి ఈ సెలక్షన్లు ఈ కలెక్టరులచేతులలోనే ఉన్నవి. వారు వారి ఇష్టమువచ్చినట్లుగా ఈ పనులకు అభ్యర్థులను select చేస్తున్నారుగాని, తెలివైనవారికి, qualification ఉన్నవారికి, అవకాశములు హెచ్చుగా కలుగుటలేదు. 1872 వ సంవత్సరంలో 6,000 మైళ్ల దూరంనుంచి బ్రిటిష్ వారు మనదేశాన్ని పరిపాలిస్తున్నపుడు కలెక్టర్లను వారి విజ్ఞులగా చేశారు. అందుచేత వారికి అనేకమైన అధికారాలు ఇచ్చారు. ఇప్పటి పరిస్థితులలో కలెక్టరుకు ఇన్ని అధికారాలు అవసరము. కలెక్టరుకు అనేక అధికారములు ఇవ్వడంవలన అతడు ఈ రోజున జిల్లాలో సర్వాధికారి సర్వాంతర్యామి, సర్వవ్యాపకుడుగా ఉన్నాడు (all pervading, all powerful, omnipresent, and omnipotent) కాబట్టి District Collector లకు ఇన్ని విపరీత అధికారాలు అవసరము. Executive అధికారులకు ఇటువంటి powers ఏ నిరంకుశ ప్రభుత్వంలో అయినా అవసరమేమో కాని మనదేశంలో మాత్రము అవసరమని, ఈ అధికారాలవల్ల ప్రజాపీడనమత్రమే జరుగడానికి అవకాశాలున్నాయని మనవి చేస్తూ సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో ఈ విపరీత పరిస్థితులను తొలగించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఇంకొక విషయమును మనవిచేస్తాను. ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులలో కొంతమంది 1920 వ సంవత్సరమునుంచి ఉన్నవాళ్లుకూడా ఉన్నారు. వారు ఆనాడు ఏ గుమాస్తా లగానో service లో ప్రవేశించి ఈనాడు ఏ కలెక్టర్లుగానో వున్నారు. వీరు ఇన్నాల్ల నుంచి బ్రిటిష్ వారి నిరంకుశ విధానాలకు చేయూతనిచ్చి ఆతి నిర్ధాక్షిణ్యంగా స్వతంత్ర పోరాటాన్ని అణగారొక్క సర్వ ప్రయత్నములు చేసినటువంటివారు. ఇటువంటి ఉద్యోగస్తులు ఈనాడుకూడా జిల్లా అధికారులుగను, బాధ్యతగల పోలీసు ఉద్యోగులుగాను ఉండే ప్రజలలో ఎటువంటి అభిప్రాయాలు ఏర్పడి వుంటాయో వీరు ఏ విధంగా ప్రజలయడల ప్రవర్తిస్తుంటారో గుర్తించవలసిన బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వము వారిపై వున్నది. ఆనాడు ఈ ఉద్యోగుల నిరంకుశ చర్యలకు ఉదాహరణగా ఒక సంగతి మనవిచేస్తాను ఏలూరులో నా “సత్యాగ్రహ వైస్” కు ఒకనాడు శ్రీ ప్రకాశం పంతులుగారు వచ్చారు. వారిని మా యింటికి ఆహ్వానించటానికై నేను అక్కడకు వెళ్లాను. వారిని చూచే నిమిత్తం ఇద్దరు, ముగ్గురు ఇతర కాంగ్రెస్ వర్కరులుకూడా అక్కడకు వచ్చారు. మేము రీ మండ్మి వున్నామని సాకుచెప్పి అదొక (unlawful assembly) గా (declare) చేసి మమ్మల్ని (arrest) చేసి జైలుకు పంపించడమేకాకుండా నా (press) నుకూడా స్వాధీనము చేసుకొని పదవేలు రూపాయల ఖరీదుగలదానిని నూరు రూపాయలకు అమ్మేసారు. ఇటువంటి నిరంకుశ విధానాలను ఆనాడు అవలంబించిన పోలీసు అధికారులు ఈనాడు ఆతి ప్రాముఖ్యమైనటువంటి బాధ్యతల ఉన్నత ప్రభుత్వస్థానాలలో వుంటే ప్రజలకు వీరు ఏ విధంగా న్యాయము చేస్తారో నాకేమి గోచరింకావడంలేదు. కాబట్టి నేను మనవిచేసేదేమిటంటే సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు ఇటువంటి మనోప్రవృత్తులు నిరంకుశ దృక్పథం కలిగినటువంటి వారిని ప్రభుత్వ శాఖలలోనుంచి విరమించేటట్లు చేయటము చాలా సులభమి.

[Sri A. Govindacharyulu]

[3rd March 1948]

“దురిదృష్ట్య వకాత్మా ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వపక్షంలో రెండు భాగాలు విచ్ఛిన్నమై ఉన్నాయి. ఎదో ఒక పక్షంకు చేరిన శాసన సభ్యులను ఈ ప్రద్యోగస్తులు ఆశ్రయించిన తరువాత ఏమీ భయములేదనే అభిప్రాయంలో ఉన్నారు. ఇది సరమైనటువంటిది కాదు. ఏ శాసన సభ్యుడున్నా ఈ ప్రద్యోగస్తులను నిజస్థితి గమనించకుండా వెనుక వేసుకొని వచ్చట ప్రశంసించతగ్గ విషయముకాదు.

“మరొక విషయమును మనవిచేస్తాను. మనలో మనకుగల రాజకీయ విచేతాలను ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనా శాస్త్రకములలో ప్రవేశపెట్టుట మంచిదికాదు. దీనివల్ల administration deteriorate అయిపోయింది. ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులలో లంచ గొండితనము (corruption) వెనుక (Advisers) పాలనా కాలములోకన్నా పెరిగిపోయింది. ప్రభుత్వమున్న ప్రజా ప్రతినిధులన్న ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులకు అల్పపేరే పోతుంది. ఈ విషయాలలో ప్రభుత్వము, ప్రజాప్రతినిధులు ఎంతకరకు సక్రమముగా పడచుచున్నామోనని ఆత్మవలోకనము చేసుకొనుట మంచిది.

“ఇక బడ్జెటు విషయమై కొన్ని సంగతులు మనవి చేస్తాను.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“అంటే ఇంతవరకు మీరు మాట్లాడినది బడ్జెటు విషయంలో కాదన్నమాట.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“నేను ఇంతవరకు మాట్లాడినదికూడా బడ్జెటు, ప్రభుత్వపాలనా విధానాలను గురించే.

“ఇప్పుడు నా నియోజక వర్గమైన పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలో ఈ సంవత్సరము ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఏ ఏ ప్రజాపకార్యాలు చేశారో వచ్చే సంవత్సరం ఏమి చేయదలచారో మొదలైన విషయాలను మనవిచేస్తాను.

“మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలో Rural Electrification Scheme అని ఒకటి ఉన్నది. ఈ scheme అమలు జరిగే సందర్భంలో యుద్ధాత్మకమైన మా జిల్లా అంతటా స్తంభాలు పారారు. తరువాత యుద్ధంవచ్చింది అనే కారణంచేత తీగలు తగిలించడం ఆపివేశారు. ఆ స్తంభాలు ఇప్పుడు అక్కడే ఉన్నాయి స్తంభాలు మాత్రం పీకేయ్యలేదు. ఈ Rural Electrification Scheme విషయమై యిదివరలో ఆర్థిక మంత్రిగారిని నిర్వాహకశాఖ మంత్రిగారిని పక్షింపగా ఈ scheme ఈ 1947-48 వ సంవత్సరంతోగా పూర్తిచేయ దలచినట్లు ఈ సభలో చెప్పిఉన్నారు. ఈ వాళ్ళ మార్చి 3 వ తారీకు ఇక ఈ సంవత్సరం 28 రోజులు మాత్రమే ఉన్నది. ఈ లోపుగా ఈ scheme ను ఏ విధంగా పూర్తిచేయగలరో నాకు బోధపడడం లేదు. దీనికిగాను కొన్ని లక్షల డబ్బు ఈ జరుగుతున్న సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటులో ప్రత్యేకించారు. ఆ డబ్బు డబ్బులాగానే ఉన్నది. కాని ఇంతవరకు ఏ విధమైన పని జరుగలేదు. ఈ మార్చి లోపుగా ఈ డబ్బు ఖర్చుకాకపోతే అది lapse అయిపోతుంది. బడ్జెటులో డబ్బు ప్రత్యేకించినంతమాత్రాన పనులు జరుగుటలేదు. వచ్చే సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటులోనూడా ఈ scheme కుగాను డబ్బు provide చేశారు. బడ్జెటులో డబ్బును ప్రత్యేకించినంత మాత్రానా ఎవరూ సంతోషించరు కాని ఈ scheme ను అమలు జరిపినపుడే ప్రజలు సంతోషిస్తారు. కాబట్టి మా జిల్లాలోని ప్రజలపై ఆధిపత్యముంచి ఈ electrification scheme ను, అచిరకాలంలో అవగణలో పెట్టవలసినదని ఆర్థికశాఖామంత్రిగారు నిర్వాహకశాఖా మంత్రిగారు కోరుతున్నారు.

“ఇంక Health department విషయమై మనవిచేస్తాను. డాక్టరు రాజ్ గారు గత 1937-39 వ సంవత్సరాలలో కాంగ్రెస్ మంత్రి వర్గంలో ఆరోగ్య

[3rd March 1948] [Sri A. Govindacharyulu]

శాఖా మంత్రిలుగా ఉన్నప్పుడు ఒకసారి మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలో పర్యటన చేస్తున్నప్పుడు వారిని మా విలూరులోని headquarters hospital కు తెనుకొనివెళ్ళి చూపించాను. మా hospital ను చూచి వారు ‘ఇదేమిటి ఇది కోల్లగుడిసిలా ఉన్నదేమిటని’ అన్నారు. ఆ కోల్లగుడిసెను వారు ఆసుపత్రిగా మార్చిస్తారని ఆప్పుడు అశించాము. కాని ఏమీ పని జరుగలేదు. ఆ కోల్లగుడిసె ఈ నాటికి కోల్లగుడిసెగానే ఉన్నది. ఈ బడ్జెటులో దానిని బాగుచేయించుటకుగాను కొంత డబ్బును provide చేశారు. ఇంతమాత్రాన పని జరుగదు. ఈ డబ్బు lapse కాకుండా దానిని సక్రమంగా వ్యయపరచి మా hospital ను బాగుచేయించవలసినదిగా ఆరోగ్య శాఖామంత్రిగారికి విన్నవిస్తున్నాను.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ఫరవాలేదు.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“రాజ్ గారు ఫరవాలేదంటున్నారు. సంతోషము. మా hospital ను ఈ సంవత్సరంలోనైనా బాగు చేయించవలసినదిగా నేను ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

“మరొకవిషయం మనవిచేస్తాను.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ఒకటేకదా.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“జిల్లాలో రేషనింగ్ తీసివేయించి వందుకు డాక్టర్ రాజ్ గారికి నా అభివందనాలు. కాని ఇంకా కొన్ని municipality లలోను, మద్రాసులోను రేషనింగు అమలులోనున్నది. దీనివల్ల ఎవ్వరు సుఖిస్తారో సుఖిస్తున్నారో అర్థం కావడంలేదు. దేశంలో తగినంత సరుకు పుందికాని ఈ పట్టణాలలోని ప్రజలు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇచ్చే (8 అవున్సుల బియ్యంన్నే) చెడ్డలతోనే తినాలనే నిర్బంధమేమిటో నాకు బోధపడడం లేదు. ఈ రేషనింగ్ వల్ల ఎవ్వరూ సుఖించటంలేదు. దీనివల్ల ప్రజలు బాధపడుచున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారికి విశేషంగా డబ్బు ఖర్చవుతోంది. ఈ సంవత్సరంలో ఈ రేషనింగ్ ప్రద్యోగస్తుల జీతాలక్రింద 116 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఖర్చవుతుందని బడ్జెటులో తెలియచేశారు. ఈ ఖర్చు అనవసరము. దీనివల్ల ఎవ్వరికీ ఏ విధంగాను ప్రపకారం జరుగుటలేదు. కాబట్టి ఈ రేషనింగును వెంటనే రద్దుచేయవలసినదిగా కోరుతున్నాను.

“ఈనాడు మనము ఏ వస్తువులూ సరిగ్గా దొరుకక బాధపడుతున్నామంటే దానికి ఇప్పుడు దేశంలో అమలులో ఉన్న డబ్బు చెలామణి విధానమే ముఖ్య కారణం. ఈ చెలామణి విధానం మారాలి. ఈ నాడు మన దేశం సర్వ స్వతంత్రమైన దేశం. కేంద్రంలోను రాష్ట్రాలలోను ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వాలున్నాయి. ఈ చెలామణి విధానాన్ని మార్చుకొని, రూపాయిని devalue చేయడానికి ఇదే అనువైన సమయము. ఈమధ్య క్రెంచి ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఫ్రాన్సుగా franc ను devalue చేసిన సంగతి గమనించండి. అదే విధంగా మన దేశంలోను రూపాయిని కనుక devalue చేసినట్లయితే మన కష్టాలు గట్టెక్కుతాయి. వస్తువుల ధరలు తగ్గుతాయి. ప్రజలు సుఖిస్తారు. అంతేకాని ఈ చెలామణి విధానాన్ని మార్చక రేషనింగ్ కంట్రోల్లు ఉంచుతామంటే ప్రజలు వస్తువులు దొరకక బాధపడుతారు. దేశంలో విలువ లేని కాగితం డబ్బు పెరిగిపోతుంది. వస్తువుల ఖరీదు అనేక రెట్లు పెరిగిపోతుంది. వీడవాళ్ళ మలమల మాడిపోతారు.

“Inflation ను check చేయడానికి సన్నులు వేస్తున్నామని డబ్బును కొంతవరకు చెలామణి నుంచి తగ్గిస్తున్నామని చెబుతున్నారు. ఇంతమాత్రంచేత పని జరుగదు.

[Sri A. Govindacharyulu] [3rd March 1948]

రూపాయి విలువను తగ్గిస్తేనే కాని హెచ్చు డబ్బును ప్రచారములోనికి withdraw చేస్తేనే కాని మనకు డబ్బు క్రితము. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి drastic action తీసుకోవా లని కోరిక ప్రభుత్వం వారిని, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వములవారిని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

“మద్రాసు, విశాఖపట్టణం, విజయనగరం మొదలైన పట్టణ ప్రాంతాలలో వెంటనే రేషనింగును రద్దుచేయవలసినదని మరల మరల ప్రభుత్వం వారిని కోరు తున్నాను. దీనివల్ల ప్రభుత్వం వారికి 116 లక్షల రూపాయలు లాభం వస్తుంది. ఆ పరిస్థితులలో Food Minister పోట్టు ఆనవసరము. రాజకీయ అహం సర ఫాల విషయమై పాక్షికదృవనిత ఆవసరం ఉండదు. ప్రభుత్వానికి డబ్బు మిగులు తుంది.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ఆ డబ్బుతో మీ ప్రంభాలకు తీగలు వేస్తే మీరు సంతోషిస్తారు.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“అవును. కాబట్టి రేషనింగును, కంట్రోల్స్ను రద్దుచేసి ప్రజలకు సుఖము చేపూర్వమలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుతూ ఇంతటితో నేను విరమిస్తున్నాను.”

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—“Mr. President, Sir, there are some things which invite congratulations and others on which congratulations are imposed. Here is a budget which I would genuinely congratulate, because it implements the policy of promoting the common man's welfare. That was the real policy to which Congress was pledged, and this Ministry has really done something towards it.

“Now I come to some details in the budget. First, I wish to say a few words about Prohibition. All of us wish very much that Prohibition should succeed, and to a certain extent, I am sure, it has succeeded. (Hear, hear.) In Malabar, to a large extent it has succeeded. I know personally some men who were addicted to drink. Nothing of tears, nothing of persuasion, nothing of religion, nothing could induce them to stop it. But after the introduction of Prohibition, for a few days I was watching some of them. In the evening, at the time when they were generally drinking, I found, there was something in their mind, some disturbance or some agitation, which quieted itself in a few days by diverting their attention to some other matter. Thus very many of them were restored. So this is really a beneficial act, and I am glad the Ministry has been able to complete it throughout the Presidency this year. But this involves some financial loss. No doubt this financial loss is compensated by the general welfare of the people and more especially of the addicts. But how are we to meet this loss of income. That is a matter not only for this year but also for the years to come. There must be found some way to make up the 17 crores, every year which we have lost on account of introducing Prohibition. We should find out means of increasing the revenue, should start industries, should take up nationalization of transport and things like that, as otherwise there will be financial crash in the course of a few years. I am sure, Government, having started nationalization of transport in the City of Madras, will not abandon it sometime hence,

3rd March 1948] [Sri M. Narayana Menon]

but continue it and extend it all over the Presidency. In this way they can earn some more money, besides affording people better facilities of transport and communication.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Pious hope!”

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—“The pious alone will have hope, and not the impious.”

“Still there are some who continue to drink, by making illicit liquor or purchasing it from somewhere. That I think is due to this: even if the driving force in a certain matter is stopped it may move on for some time by the momentum it has gained previously. Even so drink evil may go on for some time and then it may stop. One way of persuading people to stop it is by making use of cinema films. Short stories depicting the sufferings due to drink may be exhibited on the screen once or twice a week. In this way the drunkard will be seeing his own picture on the screen, his wife and children will be seeing it, and that I am sure will have a salutary effect, for the wife and children will be reminding the husband or the father about drunken man, and that one thing will stop this drink evil in the society.

“I shall now come to the food question. Food policy consists of two portions: short-term policy and long-term policy. As a short-term policy, the Grow More Food scheme is mentioned in the budget. In March 1947 there was a Government Order that subsidies for the construction of irrigation tanks and wells would be granted. I understand that in Malabar no one has taken advantage of that offer even by January last. It may be due to the ignorance of the people. Another factor which stands in the way of availing ourselves of that offer is the condition imposed that the work for which the subsidy is given must be completed by the 30th of June 1948 failing which the subsidy would be treated as a loan. Very many people will not be able to complete the work by the 30th of June, and the conversion of the subsidy into a loan will be a disaster to some of them. In Malabar heavy rain commences about the beginning of June. By the 30th June there will be plenty of water and no excavation work can be done. One year's extension will be necessary in such cases. Therefore I request the Government to extend the time for completing the work.

“In this connexion I wish to bring another point to the notice of the Government. A ryot who applies to the Tahsildar for subsidy has also to enclose a certificate from an engineer regarding the cost of construction. In fact such an engineer may not be available to all the ryots. On that account several people have not been able to avail themselves of the offer of subsidy.

“As regards the long-term policy, I see in the budget a list of irrigation schemes which the Government are going to undertake. It is really good that the Government have done so. I do not know whether the Government have been able to concentrate their attention on every district. What I would suggest is that

3.30
p.m.

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

all sources of water supply in each district should be investigated. The priority for the construction of dams, etc., may be settled not by the Government and the Secretariat but by the Collector in his discretion in consultation with the other officers concerned and the M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. of the district. This arrangement will reflect the will of the people also. Reports from officers alone may not give enough details to the Government the order of priority for each work. Therefore the plan that I have suggested now may be considered.

" There are very many big tanks on the eastern districts, but there are only some small tanks in Malabar. I do not know the reason why it is so. Probably it is because there are no big plains in Malabar for our Malabar Chieftains to have constructed big tanks. But there are very many tanks and wells both in Malabar and elsewhere which may be renovated. It is true that we have been considering their renovation during the time of the previous Congress Ministry and also during the last two years. I request the Government to take up the renovation or construction of dams, reservoirs and anicuts with a determination to complete the work in five or ten years. By this long-term policy, we can avoid food scarcity in this Province hereafter. I may recall to your mind the fact that for so many years the British Indian Government have not been paying sufficient attention to irrigation works. That is the reason why they had to spend by way of higher prices for the foodgrains purchased abroad—a much larger amount than what would be required to construct the necessary dams and reservoirs. That has been left to us by way of continuity. In order that there may be no scarcity hereafter, we must begin the work early enough. I think the Central Government and the Provincial Government realize the gravity of the situation. Therefore the work must be commenced with an unfaltering determination to complete it.

" With regard to increase of production, water alone would not be enough. In order to get a good harvest, there must be manure. Sufficient manure is not available anywhere and in very many places in Malabar, the ryots complain that manure is not available. If it is not available, it is nobody's fault. Even if it is available, there are transport difficulties. There are ever so many forests in Malabar in which green manure is available. If some chemicals are added to them, I am sure much manure can be manufactured in Malabar. Manufacture of manure must be undertaken not only in Malabar but also in other places where there are Government forests.

" Then, implements of husbandry should be made available to the ryot at a minimum cost. The Government know this and I am only reminding them.

" I see in the budget a lump-sum provision of Rs. 38 lakhs for irrigation works in Malabar. There is a note that certain irrigation projects for Malabar are under the consideration of Government. One such project is the Malampuzha project. Then there

3rd March, 1948] [Sri M. Narayana Menon]

are Vazhithodu and Gudalur projects and some other projects. But not one of them is ready for execution. Some schemes are pending with the Chief Engineer. They have to be first sanctioned by him and then by the Government before work can be commenced. With regard to this matter, I made representations to the Minister concerned, the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, and he assures me that this year work on at least four or five of them will be started as soon as the papers are received from the Chief Engineer. But I have one fear. I am always reminded of the proverb that there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. The projects have not yet been sanctioned. But here is a Minister with good intentions and he has done much last year to complete the investigation. But I do not know what may happen to them hereafter. Next year we may have fresh elections and we do not know what sort of Ministers will be there. Once work is started and some money is spent, it will be automatically continued by the future Government also. My request to the Government and the Minister concerned is to commence the work this year somehow or other.

" With regard to some schemes in Malabar, the Cochin State have already raised some objections. For the Malampuzha project, which would irrigate about 50,000 acres, there is no objection. But with regard to Gudalur scheme and some other schemes, the State have already raised objections. In the past, when Native States raised objections, it took many years to settle the matter. When the Tungabhadra Project was under contemplation, Hyderabad and Mysore States raised various objections. To meet those objections, lawyers had to be engaged and finally the matter was settled only very recently. Such matters must be settled early enough so that we may begin work this year itself. Negotiations with the Cochin Government must be started even now so that we may commence the work early enough.

" Then Sir, with regard to irrigation one point of general importance has to be mentioned. One regarding factor in these matters is the elaborate procedure laid down in the Land Acquisition Act. To acquire a land under the Land Acquisition Act these elaborate processes have got to be gone through and so the P.W.D. generally complain that these proceedings are a great hindrance to the quick progress of work. Unfortunately our Legislature has no right to make amendments to the Land Acquisition Act. We must make representations to the Central Government in the matter and see that the Act is suitably amended with a view to enable the Provincial Government to acquire lands for purposes of irrigation in a most speedy manner. The very same subject will also come up before us when we go into the question of highways. In order to lay down roads quickly, acquisition of land has to be made quickly, and since these elaborate proceedings have to be gone through, our engineers find it very difficult to go on with their work. With regard to land acquisition for irrigation purposes, it is possible, if negotiations are

3-45
p.m.

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

made with the owners of land through which the channels pass, to acquire them without payment of money. Since irrigation and highways are matters of State and also matters for the benefit of the people, there can be no objection in compelling landowners to part with the required portion of their lands. It may be said that this conduct on the part of the Government would amount to a trespass. But I would point out that for the benefit of the people as a whole, such a thing can be done and whatever legislation is necessary for that purpose, must be enacted.

"Then Sir, let me say a few words about the educational policy of the Government. The regional language policy of the Government has come to stay. I do not want to say anything against it. Because regional language is the mother tongue in particular areas, there is no harm in having regional language as the medium of instruction in our schools. So long as our Province is not partitioned, there can be no objection to this policy. But when linguistic provinces come into existence, then it will be highly necessary that in each linguistic area there should be colleges of every description. Let me make myself clearer: Suppose for instance all the linguistic provinces are formed, namely, the Andhra, the Tamil Nad, the Kerala and the Karnataka Provinces. Then take Malabar for instance. What I wish to submit is that when the Kerala Province is formed, there should be an Engineering College, a Medical College, a College for training of teachers, a Women's college and an Arts college, in fact, almost every kind of institution must exist in Malabar. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'Why not a Veterinary and an Agricultural College!') Yes a Veterinary and an Agricultural College. (Dr. V. K. John: 'A polytechnic college!') Yes, a polytechnic college also. Sir, I am not making these claims light-heartedly or in a fantastic manner. I am in all seriousness when I make these demands. My difficulties will be better appreciated, if I explain in greater detail how Malabar stands at a greater disadvantage when compared to other linguistic provinces. The regional language in Malabar is Malayalam. If you have various colleges for the Andhra and Tamil Nad which consist of so many districts, there is nothing which will be surprising, because there are ever so many districts there and it is but natural that they should have ever so many colleges. But in Malabar which is a one-district Province, and where the regional language is Malayalam, if all the classes up to intermediate are taught in Malayalam, what could the boys do, if they want to take up medicine or agriculture or any other professional courses of study? They cannot go to any other college where the instruction is not through Malayalam. That is why I say that if you stick to the principle of regional language, then apply that principle to Malabar and see that all these professional colleges are established one by one. I do not say that all these colleges should be established all at once. You may do so gradually and in the course of some four or five years. If nothing is done and we go on like this, then surely you will leave us in the lurch, and one day when we get ourselves away from

3rd March 1948] [Sri M. Narayana Menon]

this Province, we shall be left without sufficient means of educating our children. That is the reason why I urge that colleges of every description must be established there, in order that the people of Malabar may be benefited as people in other districts are.

"With regard to the Women's College in Malabar, I have to say one thing more, namely, that in Malabar women are better educated and more forward than perhaps women in other districts. There are no separate colleges at all for women in Malabar. We have the Victoria College in Palghat where about 120 women students are being admitted. It was with very great difficulty that Mr. Savoor, when he was Principal, was able to obtain the permission of the Government to do so. The same figure is continuing even now. We started an agitation to open a girls' hostel for the college, but the Government did not heed. There is no hostel accommodation for the girls there, and they are put to a lot of suffering. We promised to collect some Rs. 3 lakhs for this purpose and hand them over to Government. It will not be possible for us to collect all the ten lakhs of rupees required for starting the college ourselves. The Government must come to our help in starting the College with the three lakhs of rupees which we will be able to collect. In the Cochin State there is a women's college and in Madras we have got the Queen Mary's College where I am told 50 per cent of girls are from Malabar. There is therefore a real need for a women's college in Malabar and a number of people have come to me and requested me to represent their grievances in this matter to the Government and I hope the Hon. Minister for Education will take up this question and help us by establishing a women's college in Malabar in Palghat."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Why not in Calicut?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Sir, Palghat is more convenient than Calicut. There is another thing that I want to say in this connection. The Victoria College in Palghat has more than a thousand students. That college may be made a nucleus for the Kerala University. You have now got the Andhra University, the Madras University and also the Annamalai University which is a Tamil University. Similarly there must also be a Kanarese University and a Malayalam University. So far as Malabar is concerned, there is no University. The Travancore University is far away from Malabar and is under the control of the Travancore State."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Is it more distant from Malabar, than Madras is?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"It may be nearer to us, Sir, but we have no control over it. That is why we have to come all the way to Madras. That is why we ask you to make the Victoria College a nucleus for the Kerala University. We will certainly be able to collect some funds for the starting of a University there, but as I said, you cannot ask us to collect the

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

entire amount as in the case of the Annamalai University, because we have not got such rich men in Malabar. We will be able to collect only a token sum and we want Government to contribute the remainder and see that the university is started."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What is your token sum, is it a token sum of Rs. 100." (Laughter.)

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"Sir, that is your token sum for cut motions and for supplementary grants. Even for spending crores of rupees, you would come to the Legislature for only a token sum of Rs. 100 for sanction. Sir, this is not a matter for laughter. The Kerala University is a thing which is absolutely necessary for us for the development of the Malayalam language, for our culture, and for our literature and to neglect it is to neglect one portion of mankind.

4 p.m. "In this connection I have to mention two things. One is about the denominational colleges. Much has been said against the Muslim College here and also the Muslim Women's College. My point is, that it is quite unnecessary to have any denominational college in this Presidency. It is not a college where religion is taught. It is not a religious college. I ask can there be a college for the Muslims, a college for the Hindus and a college for the Christians and so on? There are men of different religions here. Even in Hinduism there are divisions, there is the Smartha, the Vaishnavite, etc. Can there be a Smartha College, a Vaishnava college and all that. I am very emphatic on the point, Sir, that denominational colleges of any sort should not exist in our Province. We must have only humanity as the basis for the university and not religion. Why should you name a college a Muslim College, a Hindu College and all that. There is no religion taught in those colleges.

"Of course the point of the Muslims is this. They say that the Muslims are not as much developed as the other communities and that is why they are afraid that they may not get sufficient number of seats in the colleges if admission were to take place according to merit as shown by the number of marks obtained by the candidates in a previous examination. That is their grievance. Therefore a solution must be found for such a position as that. How will you admit a Muslim boy or girl if he or she has not obtained as many marks as the Hindu or the Christian boy?

"Another point is that the Muslims may not get sufficient education in Arabic or any other language which they may wish to study. In order that they may get the advantage you must teach Arabic, Persian and other languages in the colleges. The Government must make arrangements for that. They must take away the denominational names."

DR. SRI A. LAKSHMANASWAMY MUDALIYAR:—"My question is, Sir, whether there is any college in the Presidency which is exclusively for any community."

[3rd March 1948]

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"I understand the question I know that in the Muslim College boys belonging to other religions are admitted. I went there once and gave a lecture. Then, I ask, if there is no difference at all between the Muslims, the Hindus and the Christians in the matter of admission to the College, why do you give it a denominational name? That is my question. Take away that name but give them the benefit of getting a sufficient number of seats. Find a solution in the case of admission of Muslim boys to schools. Otherwise this system of having denominational colleges will eat into the vitals of our society. Hereafter it may create other troubles than the troubles which we are now already suffering from."

"This morning I saw in the papers something about the communal Government Orders regarding admission to the Services and also with regard to admission into the schools and colleges. There also the difficulty is the same. There are communities which on account of long contact with education for a long time are in a good position. They are clever and therefore as rivals to them no boy belonging to any other community will be able to get admission into the colleges. Take some boy belonging to some community who is a clever boy and he has got so many marks. Suppose there are 100 boys like that, there may be 10 boys seeking admission from the other community but the 10 boys belonging to the other community will not be able to get admission. That is the sort of trouble that the universities and colleges are experiencing. Sir, I am really against the communal Government Order. It drives away merit. Merit should not be driven away. You must find a solution and all these clever boys should be admitted. At the same time all those boys really seeking admission, but not coming to the standard of the clever boys should also be admitted. Therefore it only comes to this, that you must open a large number of colleges so that this trouble may once and for all disappear."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"There is no provision in the Budget."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"If there is provision in the budget I would not certainly have talked about it."

"Another matter which I should like to refer to is the study of Sanskrit. I find, Sir, that it is being neglected. Of course there is some provision for some pandits, etc. But that is not enough. Sanskrit must be taught and it must be given a honourable place in our education. Of course it is not a vernacular. It is not a spoken language. All that I admit. But it is a language which gives us a cultural link between the communities and between provinces in India from the Cape Comorin to the Himalayas. This is a language that lives among men and communities in India. Therefore that language must be well-taught. So far as modern culture is concerned it may lag behind as compared with English. But so far as ancient culture is concerned, a culture that will never perish, you have a rich inheritance in Sanskrit both spiritually and psychologically. Why do you want to lose all that? That is an inheritance which you should keep and cherish for all time. That is a language that ought not be neglected."

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

"Another trouble is with regard to the Dravidian and Aryan question. That trouble has been in South India for a long time. They say that Sanskrit is an Aryan language, and that Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, etc., are Dravidian languages. They further say that they do not want this Aryan language and that only the Dravidian languages must be developed. I say that that is not the proper way of looking at things. Take for instance Telugu. My hon. Friend Mr. Govindacharyulu was talking. Though I do not know Telugu, I was able to follow him a bit because the language spoken was full of Sanskrit words. Malayalam also is like that. Sir, Sanskrit is a highly useful language and it has contributed a large number of words to the vocabulary of other languages in India. (At this stage Sri N. Ramabhadraraju took the Chair.) Therefore it should not be neglected. The Aryan and Dravidian question has nothing to do with this. If Malayalam is my mother tongue I am a Dravidian but I have studied Sanskrit. So far as the Hon. Minister for Education is concerned he is a scholar in Sanskrit."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"No, no."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"At least he knows the language very well and he has a working knowledge in Sanskrit. Therefore I say that everybody can learn Sanskrit and it will benefit all."

"I trust, Sir, that Hindi is not going to be neglected. At least the Central Government will not allow it to be neglected though on this question the predominance of the North Indian or the predominance of the South Indian may arise. On that account please do not neglect Hindi. If they neglect Hindi all the things done prior to 15-8-1947 will be lost and we will all be isolated and there will be so many States without understanding each other and the result will be as it happened when the British people first came to India. We will all be quarrelling among ourselves and some other nation will come in. Let us therefore have a common language for the whole of India in Hindi."

AN HON. MEMBER :—"And there is yet no provision in the budget."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"There is provision in the budget but it is not sufficient."

"Then I shall come to the question of linguistic Provinces. When the resolution was brought before this Council about the linguistic Provinces I stated that for all known reasons except one I won't support it. For one reason I would support it and that is this. If you do not want to live with me you please get away. That is all. If they do not want to live together as brothers let them get away. (Interruption.) It is not a case of divorce. It is a case of partition. If the Andhras do not want to live with the Tamilians let them go away. Otherwise they will always be quarrelling. We want to be a cultured Province."

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

"So far as Malabar is concerned, I do not want to get away from the Tamilnad Province on economic grounds. We have no money to maintain ourselves in the manner in which we would like to govern ourselves, when we have a distinct Province. That is the only trouble. We do not lack intelligence, we do not lack fervour, we do not lack patriotism. The only point is that we won't be strong economically as a Province with a Governor, with so many Ministers and all these things. That is why we do not want to get away, unless you want to neck us out. (A voice: 'They cannot neck us out.') A time may come when we will also willingly go away, when Travancore and Cochin come to our rescue and express themselves in favour of having a United Kerala."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Aikya Kerala."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Aikya means United. In time we are prepared to go. I do not want that we should be sent away now. Of course it is my personal opinion. Some other people from Malabar may not support this idea. There are a large number of them who do not want to be linked with the Madras Province. By separation they will suffer and the solidarity of the Province will be broken and the final result will be the flourishing of these fissiparous tendencies. Then there will be a Moplastan and some other Stans and finally there will be no unity in this Province."

"Now with regard to industrial development. In the case of industrial development also, there is no use of putting one industry, and saying 'we will do it this year'. Every district is capable of some particular industry. Some investigation must be made and it must be found out what industries will flourish in each district. You must do that. In Malabar coir industry, vanaspathi industry and manufacture of manure near forests, can be greatly developed. We have no textile industry in Malabar. That also can be introduced in Malabar. These industries will give some work to the people, and that will certainly help in promoting the economic prosperity of our country. (Dr. V. K. John: 'But there is no provision in the Budget.') There is of course no provision in the Budget. I find one very useful thing started in Tamilnad, that is, the Encyclopædia in Tamil language. It is a right move, and there must be an encyclopædia like that. I congratulate the gentleman, whoever he may be, who started such an encyclopædia. I am sure it will be a success. I also understand that something similar is started in Andhra area also. Let that also prove very useful. But there is no such thing started for Malabar."

"Sir, we must prepare a dictionary of all the regional languages, one each for Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. With regard to technical terms, I understand that something has been done in this Presidency. It is not for one Presidency or two Presidencies that a dictionary of technical names has to be made. A dictionary of technical terms and scientific terms for the whole of India is necessary. Whatever may be the language used, Dravidian

4-15
p.m.

[Sri M. Narayana Menon] [3rd March 1948]

or Aryan, for the whole of India, there should be one language to express the scientific terms. It is absolutely necessary that there should be unanimity in this matter.

"Sir, I have to mention a few more local matters. In Malabar the Emergency Additional Force was created some six or seven years ago—perhaps during War time. It is still there and it is not made permanent. It is there as a temporary establishment. But now a special armed Police is constituted on a permanent basis. I ask why this distinction is made? You have the Emergency Additional Force created some seven years ago on a temporary basis. I should like to know the reason why these people are not made permanent. If you do not want them for work in Malabar they may be sent over to other places just as the Malabar Special Police is serving in places other than Malabar. I request Government to make this Emergency Additional Force permanent just as they have made the Special Armed Police permanent. Some of these people are afraid what their fate will be tomorrow, if the Force is disbanded. Therefore, I request Government to look into their grievances and see that they are made permanent. If you do not want them to remain as an Emergency Additional Force, have them enlisted in the Special Armed Police, and then they will work loyally.

"One more thing, Sir, and that is the construction of a bridge over the Baliapatam river. It is a very big river, and the road comes up to this river near the sea. It is very broad there, and very much inconvenience is felt by people. I should like to point out that a bridge over the Baliapatam river at that place is absolutely necessary. Nothing has so far been done in the matter. I, therefore, impress upon the Government to consider this matter and construct a bridge at that place.

"With regard to agriculture, Sir, we should have agricultural farms to educate people wherever possible. I know that Government have no sufficient funds. But somehow they must make it a point of having agricultural farms at least one in a taluk so that people may get instructions from the farms. In Cochin State, they have agricultural farms. In Malabar we have one at Pattambi and the other in Nileshtar. As far as possible, we must have one farm for each taluk. This is absolutely necessary. (Interruption.) I know you have no money. But, if you have the money will you not attend to these things is my question. When I say that we should have a farm for each taluk, I do not say that we should have them immediately. They can be had in the course of 10 or 15 years. It may be that you have to spend a large amount of revenue. What is the use of having one farm in a district to which people will not go or even see it? Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that you should have a farm each for every taluk in every district.

"Now as regards veterinary hospitals. I am not saying that every village must have its own veterinary college. But so far as veterinary hospitals are concerned, I should like to point out that in Malabar a man has to take his cattle from his house to a distance

[rd March 1948] [Sri M. Narayana Menon]

of 20 miles or so in order that he may present them before the veterinary doctor for treatment. Sir, is it possible for him to do that? Will not the cattle die before they are taken to the hospital at such a long distance? You must take into consideration all these things. Well equipped hospitals may be located in a central place, but some help should be provided for people living far away from it. Then, serious diseases affecting cattle can be treated successfully. I suggest that it is necessary to have these hospitals all over our Province.

"These are the remarks that I have to offer, and I thank the framers of this Budget for making an attempt to improve the welfare of the common man. They have really done something, and I certainly congratulate them on what they have done.

"With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :— "అధ్యక్ష, గౌరవనీయులగు అధిక మంత్రి, సోదర సభ్యులారా ; గౌరవనీయ అధిక మంత్రి 1948-49 వ సంవత్సరం ఆయవ్యయ పట్టికను ఈ Council సభ ఎదుట పెట్టే సంవత్సరంలో ఇచ్చిన మధుర మైన ఉపన్యాసముయొక్క ప్రతిని చూచినంతనే పిన్నవయస్కులయ్య వారు చూపించిన ఉత్సాహాన్ని వారియొక్క నిష్కల్మష హృదయాన్ని తెలియపరచు చున్నది. ముఖ్యతంగా ముద్రించిన ఆశోక చక్రవర్తి జాతీయ పతాకము, తుది నొసగిన గురుదేవునిని వాక్యాలు వారియొక్క ఉన్నత భావాలను, ఉదార స్వభావా లను తెలియపరచుచున్నాయని నేను భావించుచున్నాను.

"వారియొక్క ఈ ఆయవ్యయ పట్టికను గురించి మాజీ ప్రధాని శ్రీ సి. రాజగో పాలాచారిగారు పంపించిన అధినందలకు ఉచ్చిత బిల్లుకాక ఈ ఆయవ్యయ పట్టికలో ఇచ్చిన ప్రకారము ద్రవ్యమును సక్రమంగా వి వి పద్ధతులకు ఖర్చు పెట్టాలా ఆ ఆ పద్ధ తికే ఖర్చు పెట్టవలసిన బాధ్యత అధిక మంత్రిగారిపై ఉన్నదని చెప్పి నేను తిరిగి వారిని శదేశపదే హెచ్చరిస్తున్నాను.

"వారి ఉపన్యాసము 3 వ పేజీలో వ్రాసినట్లు 1947 వ సంవత్సరం ఆగస్టు 15 వ తారీఖున Indian Dominion సంపూర్ణ బాధ్యతాయుత ప్రభుత్వముగా చేయబడినదని రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వములలో గెవర్నరుకు నామకః స్థానము ఉన్నప్పటికి పరి పాలనాబాధ్యత వారిది కూడా Cabinet మీదనే ఉండడం చేత పరిపాలనలో వివిధమైన అక్రమము జరిగినప్పటికి మంత్రులే బాధ్యులై ఉంటారు. ఇదివరలో మంత్రివర్గము కొన్ని విషయాలలో తప్పుటడుగులు వేస్తుందని తోస్తే అటువంటి పరిస్థితులను గవ ర్నరు తొలగించడానికి ఆవకాశము లుండేవి. కాని ఇప్పుడు అటువంటి పరిస్థితుల వల్ల ప్రజలు కష్టనష్టాలకు లోనుకావలసి వస్తుంది. మంత్రివర్గంవారు ప్రజా ప్రతి నిధులు కాబట్టి, చిరకాలమునుంచి ప్రజలతో కలసి మెలసి దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యము కొరకై పాటుపడినటువంటివారు కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వాన్ని సక్రమమైన మార్గాలలో నడపడానికి కృషిచేస్తారని నేను విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను. నామిత్యలు శ్రీ గోవిందాచార్యులుగారు ఇతః పూర్వము ప్రభుత్వంలో జరిగిన కొన్ని లోపాలను గురించి ఆయన హృదయవేదనను వెల్లడిచేసి ఉన్నారు. రెండు సంవత్సరముల ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనలో ఇంతవరకు మనము ప్రజలకు వి సౌకర్యములు చేయగలిగాము ప్రజలలో ఈ ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వం ఎటువంటి భావములను కల్పించగలిగినది మొదలగు విషయముల నన్నింటిని నా మిత్యలు వెల్లడించాడు. ఆయన కరడు కట్టిన కాంగ్రెసువాది. ఆయన ఈ రోజున దేశంలో

[Sri T. Purushotham]

[3rd March 1948]

పజల మర్కర దారిద్ర్యము, ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగుల ప్రజా సామాన్యానికి కలిగించే ఇక్కట్లు, ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనలోని ఇబ్బందులు చూచినవాడు అగుటచేత ఆయన హృదయవేదనను ఇక్కడ వెల్లడిచేసినాడని నేను అనుకొంటున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు నా నియోజక వర్గంలో ప్రజలకు కలుగుతుండే ఇబ్బందులు, పరిపాలనలోని లోటుపాట్లు కొన్ని నేను ఇప్పుడు ముప్పటివలె విన్నాను. ఇవి ప్రత్యేకంగా ముద్రలను విసుర్నించడానికి, ప్రభుత్వాన్ని విమర్శించేయడానికి చేస్తున్న వికాపు. వీటిని అవిధంగా తీసుకొనవద్దు. నిజంగా సక్రమమైన ప్రజాభిప్రాయాన్ని నేను ప్రజా ప్రతినిధిగా ఇక్కడ వెల్లడిచేస్తున్నాను మనమంతా వాటిని పరిశీలించి తమలోపాలును అలోచించవలసినదని నేను వారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ప్రజల వాదలేమీ గమనించి వాటిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు తొలగించవలసి విశ్వసించుచున్నాను.

“ఈ రోజున ప్రజలలో అసంతృప్తి, నిస్సహన వర్తన ఉన్నది. వారి బాధలను తొలగించ గలుగుతామనే అభిప్రాయంతో, ఆ శత్రువారు మనలను ఎన్నుకొని ఈ శాసనసభలకు పంపించారు. అద్వైతరుల పరిపాలనలోను, జస్టిస్ పార్టీవారి పరిపాలనలోన ప్రజలను ఉద్దేశ్య చేశారని, మనము వారికి ఉపకారము చేయగలమని భావించి మనలను ఎన్నికలలో ఎన్నుకొని వారి ప్రతినిధులుగా ఇక్కడకు పంపించారు. కాబట్టి ప్రజల ఇబ్బందులను తొలగించవలసిన చాక్లరే మన వైన ఉన్నదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయం మనకందరకు తెలిసినటువంటిదే. నేను విశేషించి చెప్పనవసరం లేదు.

“ఈ రోజున కాశన సభలలో సభ్యులు వేసే ప్రశ్నలకు కొంతమంది మంత్రులు ఇచ్చేజవాబులు నియోజకవర్గములలోని ప్రజలు చదువుకొని విచారించవలసిన పరిస్థితులు వస్తున్నాయి. పూర్వము జస్టిస్ పార్టీ పరిపాలనలో మంత్రులు ఎటువంటి సమాధానాలు చెప్పమంటేవారో ఈ రోజున మన ప్రజాప్రభుత్వ మంత్రులుకూడా నియోజక వర్గముల నుంచి వచ్చిన శాసనసభ్యులకు అదే విధంగా జవాబులు ఇచ్చుచున్నారనే అపనింద పొందవలసిన దురస్థ కలుగుతోంది. ఈ దురదృష్టానికి కారణం ఆ జస్టిస్ పార్టీలో ఉన్న వారు కొందరు ఇప్పుడు మంత్రులుగా వుండి పాతపద్ధతులలోనే సమాధానాలను చెప్పే పరిస్థితులలో ఉంటే ఉండవచ్చు.

“స్వర్గీయ మహాత్మా గాంధీగారు దేశంలో కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ వల్ల ప్రజలు చెప్పరాని ఇక్కట్లు పడుతున్నారని, హెచ్చుకాలనా కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ ఉండడం వంటిది కాదని చాల దీక్షతో పనిచేసి భారతప్రభుత్వాన్ని ఒప్పించి దేశానికి మహిమకారము చేశారు. భారత ప్రభుత్వ విధానానుగుణంగా మన మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వంవారుకూడా అహారపదార్థాలను బట్టలను decontrol చేశారు. ఈ విధంగా మిగతా ప్రస్తుతల నన్నింటి మీదనుంచికూడా కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ను రద్దుచేసి ప్రజావసర సమీపము ప్రజా సామాన్యానికి సులభంగా దొరుకేటట్లు ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేస్తారని అనిపిస్తున్న వార్తల్లో నేను ఒకణ్ణి. కాని దురదృష్ట వశాత్తూ మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంలో కొన్ని సానిటారిటీలలోను మదరాసు పట్టణంలోను ఇంకా రేషనింగు ఆమలులో ఉన్నది. ఈ కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ విధానము, రేషనింగు విధానము ప్రజలను ఓర్చి పిప్పించేస్తోంది. ఇది సామాన్య ప్రజానీకానికి వివిధంగాను ఉపయోగకరంగాలేదు. దీనివల్ల భవిష్యత్తుకు, ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులకు ఏమైనా లాభమేమోకాని ఇంకొకరి కెవ్వరికి ఉపకరించదు. దీనివలన ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులలో లింగగౌరవతనము పెరిగిపోతోంది. ప్రజలకు అహార పదార్థాలు సక్రమంగా దొరకక కొంగబజారులో హెచ్చు ధరలకు వారు కొనుక్కొనవలసి వస్తోంది. పల్లెటి గ్రామాలలో రేషనింగు రద్దుచేసినప్పుడు ఈ మనిషిసానిటారిటీలలోను మదరాసులోను ఇంకా ఈ రేషనింగు ఎందుకు వుండాలో నాకు అర్థమగుట లేదు. ఈ కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ను, రేషనింగును

3rd March 1948]

[Sri T. Purushotham]

రద్దుచేసి ఉంటే ఈ సంవత్సరము 116 లక్షల రూపాయలు, వచ్చే సంవత్సరము 66 లక్షల రూపాయలుకూడా ప్రభుత్వంవారికి లాభంవచ్చి ఉండేది. నా మిత్రులు శ్రీగోవిందాచారిగారు చెప్పినట్లుగా అహార కాఫీ మంత్రి పదవి అనవసరమే ఉండేది. ప్రభుత్వానికి ఖర్చు తగ్గేది. ఆటబ్బులో ఇతర ప్రజాపకర్షమైన పనులకుగాని, వినియోగించటానికి ఎక్కువ ఆవకాశము ఉండేఉండేది. కాబట్టి రేషనింగును పట్టణములలోకూడా వెంటనే రద్దు చేయవలసినదని, కలెక్ట్రాల్స్ను పూర్తిగా తీసివేయవలసినదని చక్కగా నిర్మాణకార్యక్రమములను తీసుకొని ఈ దబ్బును అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికిగాను సక్రమపద్ధతులలో వినియోగించవలసినదని నేను ప్రభుత్వమువారికిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఇప్పుడు మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంలో అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికిగాను కొన్ని కోట్ల రూపాయలు వెచ్చించబడుతోంది. ఈ రోజున కనుక ఈ Grow More Food Scheme క్రింద ఏ ఏ జిల్లాలలో ఎన్నెన్నో సూతులు త్రవ్వించారో, ఎంతెంత డబ్బు ఖర్చు పెట్టారో, ఈ సూతులవల్ల ఎంతభూమి కొత్తగా సాగులోనికి తేడినదో మొదలయిన రెక్కలను తీసుకొన్నట్లయితే, ఇందులోని, నిజా సజములు, ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగము ప్రకారము పనులు సక్రమముగా జరుగుటలేదని ఏ కొద్ది మంది వ్యక్తులతో ప్రత్యేకంగా ఇది ఉపయోగ పడుతుందని, అధికాహారోత్పత్తి సవ్యంగా కొనసాగింతుందని రుజువు కాగలదని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి మనవి నేస్తున్నాను, ఈ విషయమునువారు దృష్టియందుంచుకొని, ఈ అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తిస్థితులను ఇవివరలో అద్వైతర్లు కాలంకా నడిపించే పద్ధతుల మీదనేకాకుండా సక్రమపద్ధతులపై ఆమలు జరిపించాలని కోరుచున్నాను.

“అనేక లక్షలాది ఎకరముల సారవంతమైన లంక భూమి ప్రభుత్వమువారి యొక్క స్వాధీనములో ఉన్నది. ప్రభుత్వమువారు వీటిని ఇదివరలో అహారధాన్యాలను పండించుటకుగాను రైతులకు గుత్తలకు ఇస్తుండేవారు. కాని యద్దం మూలంగా commercial crops కు ధరలు పెంచినందువలన, హెచ్చు ఆదాయము వస్తోందనే కారణంచేత ఈ భూములను commercial crops వేయటానికి ఉపయోగిస్తున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారే ఈ విధంగా తమ భూములను commercial crops వేయటానికి ఇస్తుంటే స్వల్ప భూములు కలిగినటువంటి వేద రైతులు హెచ్చు ధరలు ఆశించి commercial crops వేయటానికి ఆశ్చర్యం ఏముంది. కాబట్టి అదర్భంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు తమ లంక భూములలో అహార ధాన్యాలను పండించడం అత్యవసరం. దీనివలన ప్రభుత్వాదాయం తగ్గవచ్చు. కాని అనవ్వంగణింప తగ్గది కాదు. ఇతర దేశాలనుంచి అహార పదార్థాలను తెప్పించుకొనే టుండుకుగాను మనం అనేక కోట్ల రూపాయలను ఖర్చు చేస్తున్నాము. కాబట్టి ఈ లంక భూములలో ఈ అహార కొరత కాలంలో అహార పదార్థాలు పండించే నిమిత్తమే గుత్తకు ఇవ్వడం సముచితం. గత సంవత్సరం ఈ విధంగా కోరినమీదట ఈ లంక భూములను అహార ధాన్యాలను పండించే నిమిత్తమే వేలం వేయించాలని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆర్జున ఇచ్చారు. కాని ఏ కారణంచేతనో తిరిగి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆ ఆర్జునను రద్దు చేసినట్లు తెలుస్తోంది. ఇది సత్యమైన విధానము కాదని నా మనవి. కొన్ని కోట్ల రూపాయలను విదేశముల నుండి అహార పదార్థములను దిగుమతి చేయడానికిగాను ఖర్చు చేయ అంగీకరించిన ప్రభుత్వము, తన దేశంలో ఇతర దేశములకు ఎగుమతి చేయుటకుగాను పండించే పంటలను నిషేధించి, ఆ భూములలో స్వదేశంలో అందరకు అత్యవసరమైన అహార ధాన్యాలను పండించడానికి వినియోగించడానికి సాహసించలేదా? ఇప్పుడైనా కాము వృధాచేయక ఇతరదేశముల ఆవసరమై, మన నష్టములకైనను సహించి పండించే వర్తనీయా పాగాకును పండించడం నిషేధిస్తే కాని మన దేశ ష్రేమానికి అహార కొరత తీరదు.

[Sri T. Purushotham] [3rd March 1948]

“గ్రామములలో బోనస్ స్కేండ్ క్రింద ఎరువుల పంపకం విషయంలో రైతులు పడే కష్టాలను గౌరవనీయులగు వ్యవసాయశాఖా మంత్రిగారికి చెప్పాను. ఆ కష్టాలన్నీ గవర్నమెంటువారికి తెలుసునని ఆయన అంగీకరించారు. కాని ఈ రోజున జిల్లాలలో యథాప్రకారంగానే జరుగుతోంది. ఈ ఆయవ్యయ పట్టికలో తెలియపరచినట్లుగా గత సంవత్సరంలో మన రాష్ట్రం మొత్తంమీద మూడు కోట్ల రూపాయల ధాన్యం సేకరించారు (procurement చేసారు). బస్తాకు ఒక రూపాయ చొప్పున మూడు కోట్ల రూపాయల విలువకు ఎరువుల బోనస్ కూడకొలు రైతులవద్ద ఉన్నవి. ఈ బోనస్ కూడనటు ధాన్యము ఇచ్చిన ధనికులైనటువంటి ఈనాందాయల చేతులలో ఉన్నాయి. పంపకం ఆర్డరు ప్రకారము ఎరువుల coupon holder కుగాని ఇతరులకు ఇవ్వరు. నిజానికి ఈ కూడనటుల మీద ఇచ్చే ఎరువు వ్యవసాయం చేయని ఈనాందాయల వద్దనుంచి commercial crops వేసి హెచ్చు ధరలు సంపాదించడం చిన రైతులకు హెచ్చు ధరలకు విక్రయించబడుతోంది కాని, నిజంగా ఆహార ధాన్యాలను పండించడానికి కృషిచేసే వేద రైతుకు ఎరువు దొరకడమే కష్టంగా ఉంది, దొరకడం లేదనే చెప్పాలి. ఇటువంటి వేద రైతులకు వ్యవసాయ దిపాద్వ మెంటువారు ఎరువు కొనకొనే అవకాశమే కల్పించడంలేదు.

“గౌరవ సభ్యులు శ్రీ ఆర్. సూర్యనారాయణ రావుగారు వ్యవసాయ దిపాద్వ మెంటు ఇష్టమే ఎరువులను ఆహ్వానం చేసే దిపాద్వ మెంటుగా మారిపోయినదని శల విచ్చారు. వారు చెప్పినది యథార్థమైన విషయము. వ్యవసాయ దిపాద్వ మెంటు రైతుకు సలహా, సంప్రదింపు ఇచ్చే దిపాద్వ మెంటుగా ఉంటేనే మంచిదిగాని, 24 గంటలపాటు దిపాల్లో ఎరువులు అమ్ముకొనే దిపాద్వ మెంటుగానే ఉన్నదని నేను మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఇప్పటికైనా ఆ దిపాద్వ మెంటును స్వేచ్ఛగా ప్రతి రైతుకు అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికిగాను లేక సలహా ఇచ్చేటటువంటి శాఖగా ఉంచితేనే మంచిది. ఇంక ఈ ఎరువుల సరఫరాను ఏ కమిటీల ద్వారానో, సహకార సంఘాల ద్వారానో అమ్మించే విధానములు చేయించవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈ విధంగా చేసినట్లయితే రైతుకు వ్యవసాయ దిపాద్వ మెంటువారి సలహా దొరుకుతుంది. రైతు సంతోషిస్తాడు. ప్రభుత్వంకు ఖర్చుకూడా తగ్గుతుంది. కాబట్టి ఈ సలహాను పరిశీలించ వలసినదిగా మంత్రివర్గమువారిని మరీమరీ కోరుతున్నాను.

“మిత్రులు వీరభద్ర రావుగారు సహకార సంఘాలను గురించి చెప్పారు. ఈ సహకార సంఘాలమీద ప్రభుత్వంవారికి సవతి తల్లి ప్రేమ విమిటా ఆర్థమగుటలేదు. ప్రజల ఉపయోగం నిమిత్తం మంచో చెడ్డో ఉత్పత్తి కొనుగోలుదార్ల సంఘాలను ఈ ప్రజాప్రతినిధుల ప్రభుత్వమే స్థాపన చేసినది. రమారమి రెండు మాసములు గడవక పూర్వమే వీటికి చాలా క్లిష్టం తగిలింది. ప్రభుత్వ ఆదేశాలను అనుసరించే ప్రజల వద్దనుంచి కొట్లాది డబ్బు వసూలుచేసి ఈ సంఘాలను స్థాపించారు. ఈ సంఘాల డబ్బు బాంకులలో మూలుగుతున్నది. మన ప్రజాప్రతినిధులు మన నియోజకవర్గముల లోని ప్రజలను ప్రోత్సహించి డబ్బు వసూలుచేసి సంఘాలను స్థాపించాము. ఇటువంటి సంఘాలను లీసేవేయడం మంచిదికాదు. రెండు నెలలు పనిచేసేయో లేదో ఈ సంఘాలకు చాలా ఇబ్బం తగిలింది. ఈ సంఘాలకు ధాన్య సేకరణ అధికారం రద్దు చేశారు. దానితో ముఖ్యంగా ఏ ఆదర్శంవై ఈ సంఘాలు నిర్మాణము చేయజేసినాయో ఆ పనులను చేయుటకు వీటికి హక్కు రద్దుకాబడినవి. అందుచేత వీటిపని సక్రమంగా జరగటానికి అటంకాలు ఏర్పడినాయి. ఈ ఉత్పత్తి కొనుగోలుదార్ల సంఘాలను ఉంచాలో, లీసేవేయాలో అనే విషయం పరిశీలించి ప్రభుత్వానికి తెలియపరచే సమిత్తము శ్రీ రామలింగం చెట్టియారుగారి ఆధ్వర్యమున ఒక కమిటీని ప్రభుత్వంవారు

3rd March 1948] [Sri T. Purushotham]

విచ్చాటుచేశారు. ఆ కమిటీవారు జిల్లాలలో పర్యటనచేసి ఈ సంఘాలను ఉంచుటే తమ అభివృద్ధి ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలియచేసినట్లు వార్తా పత్రికలలో చూచినాము. ఈ కమిటీ రిపోర్టు ప్రభుత్వంవారికి అందజేయబడి కొన్ని మాసముల కాలమయినట్లు కూడా మనకందరకు తెలిసిన విషయమే. కాని ఇంతవరకు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక తుది నిర్ణయానికి రాలేదు. ఇందులకుగల కారణాలను ఉపాధిదాతల పోతున్నాము. ఈ విధంగా అనవసరమైన ఉపేక్షవల్ల కాలహరణవల్ల ఈ సంఘాలకు రద్ద్యా ప్రజా సీకానికి నష్టం కలుగుతోందని ప్రభుత్వానికి సవినయంగా మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“ఈ సంఘాల భవిష్యత్తు తేల్చకపోవడంచేత వీటిని కట్టివేయాలో, ఉంచాలో తెలియబంటుంది. ఏ పని జరుగకపోయినా కార్యదర్శులకు, ఇతరులకు జీతాల నిమిత్తమై నెలకు సుమారు 500 రూపాయలు ఖర్చుగుతున్నాయి. ఈ నష్టానికి బాధ్యులు ప్రభుత్వంవారో లేక ఆ ఆ నియోజక వర్గములలోని ప్రజాప్రతినిధులే బాధ్యులౌ తెలియబంటుంది. అనవసరంగా కాలహరణంచేసి ప్రజలకు నష్టం కలిగించడం భావ్యం కాదని నా అభివృద్ధి. వీటిని ఉంచడంవారా వెంటనే ఆ విధంగా ఆర్డర్లు ఇవ్వండి. లేకపోతే మూసేవేయమని హుకుంజారీ చేయండి. కాని ఏ నిర్ణయానికి రాకపోవడంవల్ల ఏ విధంగాను లాభంలేదు. రామలింగ చెట్టియారుగారి కమిటీ రిపోర్టులో విమె వ్రాసారు. ఈ సంఘాలు పనిచేసిన రెండు మాసముల కాలంలోనే కొన్నికొన్ని సంఘాలు 30 నేలు, 40 నేలు, 10 నేలు లాభాలు సంపాదించగలిగాయి. ఈ సంఘాలకు లాభం వచ్చినదంటే తద్వారా ప్రజలకు లాభం వచ్చినదన్న మాటే. వీటిని ఉంచడమే భావ్యమని రామలింగ చెట్టియారుగారి కమిటీ రిపోర్టు చేసినపుడుకూడా ఎందుకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇంకా వెనకాడుతున్నారో నాకు అర్థముకావడం లేదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే ప్రభుత్వంవారు ప్రజల శ్రేయస్సును ఆకాంక్షించే వారు కనుక ఈ సంఘాలను ఉంచాలో, తుదముట్టించాలో ఒక నిశ్చయానికి రావాలని వారిని కోరుతున్నాను. ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఈ కాలహరణం పట్ల ప్రజలలో ఆసంతృప్తి కలుగుతోందని ఉత్సాహం కనుపించటం లేదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ప్రతి చిన్న విషయంలోను కాబినెట్ జిల్లాలలో ఉండే అధికారుల వ్యవహార లోలో కలుగజేసుకోవడంమంచిదికాదు. జిల్లాలలో ఆక్రమాలు, అవకతవకలు జరుగుతుంటే సరిదిద్దడం మంచిదికాదనను. కాని ప్రతి చిన్న విషయములలోను మంత్రులు జోక్యం కలుగజేసుకోవడం ప్రభుత్వంయొక్క గౌరవానికి ప్రతిష్టకు భంగమేమైనా మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈనాడు మంత్రులుగా ఉన్నవారు చాలాకాలం గ్రామములలో ఉండినటువంటి వారే. ఇటువంటి స్వల్పవిషయాలలో వారు కలుగజేసుకుంటుంటే ప్రజలలో ఎటువంటి భావాలు కలుగుతాయో తెలిసే ఉంటుంది. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి లోటుపాట్లను ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తిస్తారని నేను అనుకుంటున్నాను.

(At this stage Hon. President took the Chair.)

“ఒక చిన్న గ్రామంలో రూ 14 లకు ఒక చేపలపాట వేలమైతే, Deputy Tahsildar ఆ వేలమును confirm చేస్తే, Deputy Collector తిరగ తీస్తే, District Collector ఆ పాటను ఖాయపరచి అర్జరుచేస్తే మన మంత్రులు కలుగజేసుకొని తిరగ తీస్తే పరిస్థితులు ఏవిధంగా ఉంటాయో ఆలోచించండి. స్వల్పమైన ఒక రూ 14 ల చేపలపాటకు రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారి వంటివారు అడ్డువచ్చి గ్రామాలలో తగాదాలు పెంచుతుంటే గ్రామాదులలో వివాదాలు పెరిగి, ప్రజలలోను, ఉద్యోగులలోను అవినీతి పెరుగుతుంది.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“I hope the hon. Member is making himself responsible for the statements he is making.” 4-30 p.m.

[3rd March 1948]

DB. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, the hon. Member may specify the district or give more particulars."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" I refer to East Godavari district, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that he is making very serious allegations against a person who is not here. I am sure he will make himself responsible for what he says. I do not want him to substantiate them now. But if he is called upon to substantiate them, he must be ready to do it."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I say, Sir, that the Hon. Minister concerned should have been present when such accusations are made?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the Hon. Minister did not know that such accusations would be made."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" ఇటువంటి ముఖ్య విషయం గురించి మనవి చేస్తాను. మా తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాలో నా మిత్రులు రామభద్ర రాజుగారి నియోజకవర్గములో అల్లవరం అనే చిన్న గ్రామము వున్నది. ఆ గ్రామములో చాలా కాలమునుంచి వసలేస్తున్న ఒక సహకార సంఘము (Co-operative Stores) ఉన్నది. ఈ Co-operative Stores కంట్రోలు వస్తువులను పంపకము చేయటానికి అధికారముండేది. ఈ distribution సక్రమముగా జరగటంలేదని సభ్యులందరూ కలసి వెనెడింబును తీసివేసి ఇంకొక కొత్త ప్రెసిడెంటును ఎన్నుకొనినారు. వెంటనే Revenue Divisional Officer ఈ Stores కంట్రోలు వస్తువులను పంపకము చేసే హక్కును తీసివేసి బై-లాల్ నైనా frame చేసుకోవటంకంటే ఒక Society కి ఈ హక్కును ఇవ్వడం, అధికారంలోవున్న పార్టీవారి అధిపతులకు లోనై జిల్లాలోని అధికారులు, గవర్నమెంటు ఉద్యోగస్తులు వర్తింపడం మొదలైన దురువస్థలు కలుగుతున్నాయని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" This is the second allegation. If it is against a Minister, he can reply to it. But if it is against an officer of Government, I think, fairness requires that the hon. Member should take it up to the Minister concerned and then if he is not satisfied."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" The parties concerned have approached the Government also."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I know nothing about it. I am only telling the hon. Member that these are very serious allegations and that he should be able to substantiate them if he is called upon to do so."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" I know fully well to this extent that the distribution of controlled articles which had been entrusted to the Co-operative Stores was taken away by the Revenue Divisional Officer concerned from the stores and given to another society."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That might be, but the hon. Member may not know the reason why it was done. He is saying that it

[3rd March 1948] [Mr. President]

was done for a particular reason. Perhaps the records may disclose other reasons. Therefore, it is, I say that the hon. Member must make himself certain that the change was made for the reasons alleged by him."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" It is due to the partisan spirit that it was done. I can say to that extent. అధ్యక్షా, ఈ రోజున మన కాంగ్రెస్ వారు ప్రభుత్వములో ఉండి రెండు సంవత్సరములయినను వ్యవసాయం చేసే రైతుయొక్క పరిస్థితి చాలా నిరుత్సాహకరంగా ఉన్నదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్ల సరఫరా విషయమై లెక్కలను తీసుకొని చూచివట్లయితే కనీసము సూటికి ఏ ఇద్దరు రైతులకో ఒక పాద, ఒకగుసము దొరుకు తున్నాయేమోకాని మిగతావారికి అత్యవసరమైన పనిముట్లు రొరకటం లేదనే నిజస్థితి మనకు తెలుస్తుంది. పట్టణాలలో పెద్దపెద్ద మేదలు కట్టడానికి ఇనుము సులభంగా రొరకటానికి అవకాశాలున్నట్లున్నాయి కాని కష్టించి ప్రజల కందరకూ ముఖ్యపసరమైన ఆహార పదార్థాలను పండించేటటువంటి రైతుకు కావలసిన పాదలు, గుసపములుకూడా ఇవ్వలేని స్థితిలో ఉన్నామని విచారించుచున్నాను. వ్యవసాయ శాఖా మంత్రిగారు, అధిక శాఖా మంత్రిగారు ఈ విషయములో ఎక్కువ కృషిచేసి రైతులకు వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు సక్రమంగా దొరుకునట్లు చేయవలసినదిగా వారిని కోరుచున్నాను."

"ముఖ్యంగా నా జిల్లా అయిన తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాకు సంబంధించిన రామ వాడ సాగర్ ప్రాజెక్టు detailed investigation చేసేందుకుగాను, ఈ బడ్జెటులో రెండు లక్షల రూపాయలు కేటా యించినందులకు అధిక శాఖా మంత్రిగారికి ప్రత్యేకముగా నా వందనములు అర్పిస్తున్నాను."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" ఇంకా చాలా వున్నదా."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" ముగిస్తున్నాను. ముఖ్యంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు రైతుయొక్క డ్రీమాన్ని మనస్సుకందుచుకొని, వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధిగాను కృషిచేయవలసినదిగా కోరుతూ నా ఉపన్యాసమును ముగిస్తున్నాను."

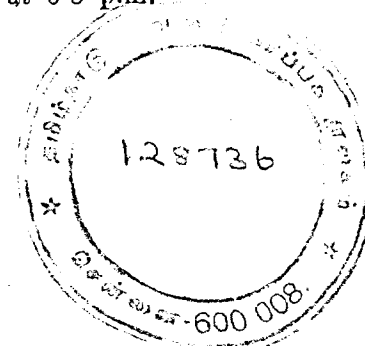
'Into that Heaven of Freedom, my Father, let my country awake.'

అనే వాక్యాన్ని అచరణలోనికి తీసుకొని వచ్చుటలో నీకు (అధిక మంత్రి) భగవంతుడు ధైర్యము ఇచ్చి ప్రోత్సహించు గాక."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Yes, that is poetic licence!"

The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 5-3 p.m.



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